

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, August 6, 1987

Published Since 1877

Helicopter takes relief to Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (BP) — The organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Ethiopia has bought a helicopter to help relief workers fulfill a three-year development contract with the Ethiopian government. The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board released \$15,000 in hunger relief money for a deposit on the helicopter in late July, when missionaries signed an agreement to buy it.

The four-passenger, \$300,000 craft cruises at about 110 miles per hour and is capable of carrying 3,200 pounds. It can carry workers into areas where projects are underway or, if necessary, evacuate two patients on stretchers. It will be operated and maintained by Air Serv International, formerly an arm of Missionary Aviation Fellowship.

The helicopter will play a key role in transportation throughout the remote, mountainous Menz-Gishe and Merhabete districts, where travel by land is treacherous. Development there during the next several years will focus on improving the water supply, working to enrich the soil and increase crop yields, breeding more healthy animals, and maintaining roads.

Missionaries hope to help the Ethiopians go beyond the point of being one crop failure away from famine.

Prof sets scripture to music

By Charles Willis

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — The best text for a hymn or Christian anthem is Scripture, according to Claude L. Bass, Southern Baptist teacher, composer, and text writer.

"Scripture is beautiful to me. Maybe as I read Scripture, I hear music more than from any other texts," said Bass, professor of music theory and composition at Southwestern Seminary here. He considers himself a teacher first and a composer/text writer second.

As the music composer and text writer for numerous works, many of them commissioned for special occasions, Bass seems to turn more often to Scripture than to life experiences for words.

"Our society is so I-centered," he observed. "God should be at the center of it, not what we have experienced or how we feel about something. That can be done in personal devotions."

"I like to shed as much light on the Scripture as I can. I try to find the

best way to wed it to music so the music does not detract from it. I'm trying to paint in music what the text is saying."

His settings of Scripture cover a wide range of texts. "Psalm Twenty-three," published more than 25 years ago by Broadman Press, is representative of his earlier settings of Scripture to music. Later works published by Broadman include "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" (Matthew 6:31-33), "Christ, My Strength" (Philippians 4:13, Psalm 28:7), "Wait on the Lord" (Psalm 27:14, Isaiah 40:30-31), "Ye Are the Light of the World" (Matthew 5:14-16) and a work from "Contemporary Canticles," Matthew 6:19-21 from an original translation by W.A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas.

Bass said he always begins with the text, preferring that the music come from the text rather than forcing the text to fit the music.

"I do background work with commentaries and read a lot of different

translations of the Bible," he said. "I look for the specific character of the text and then I try to match it in music. Intuition is a part of it, but it's also a matter of applying craftsmanship. I have to put myself in that framework to match the mood of the text to the mood of the music."

"I do ask the Lord to help me a lot when I am setting his word to music," said Bass. He lamented that "God's word is trivialized by a lot of music."

"I generally go for more formal language, and the King James Version has that," he added.

Paraphrasing Scripture, he said, is more difficult than using the exact words from Scripture, "because paraphrasing has to be stylistically consistent. That's what I want — something that fits together. The Scripture itself is already stylistically consistent."

Bass said he feels not enough time is spent on praise, adoration, and worship: "I like to concentrate on texts that praise God rather than on one

that tells how I feel or how I'm doing in a certain point in my day. I would rather my music point toward God."

Mark Blankenship, who has been Bass' editor in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church music department for a dozen years, said some Bible passages are more easily set to music than others because of their metrical flow.

However, Bass "has the ability to take most any Scripture and give it a poetic flow with his music, even if there is not a natural metrical pattern to the syllables," Blankenship observed. "His unique gift of melody seems to pull the most important meaning and emotion from every word of the text."

Bass recalled one of his teachers telling him that "the sacred music we write presents to the world our view of God." This really stayed with me.

"Music can give expression to things that words cannot express."

Charles Willis writes for the Sunday School Board.



Language Missions Day August 9

America: a patchwork of people from many nations bearing gifts that enrich our country.

Gifts brought by immigrants and refugees contributed to the development of traditional American folk art: cross-stitch (Peru), quilting (China), stenciling (Egypt and the Orient).

Using language and culture as channels for the gospel, Southern Baptists minister among 84 ethnic groups speaking 87 languages.

"Let all the nations be gathered together, . . . let them bring forth their gifts."

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
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Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

Help for flood victims

Several Southern Baptist Churches in Texas and one in Arkansas have provided assistance in many ways for victims of the Guadalupe River flood near Comfort, Texas, and for their families and other members of Seagoville Road Baptist Church in Balch Springs, Texas.

Balch Springs is a small suburb of Dallas.

Being from Texas, I had heard of those sudden floods such as the one near Comfort, but they seemed to happen more often in the dryer areas of West Texas. Rain is not as generous out there in West Texas; but when it rains, the dry creek beds become flooded quickly.

Comfort is in an area where rain is more common. This was an uncommon rain, however.

Seagoville Road Baptist Church is an independent congregation and is located two blocks from where one of my sons lived for several years. Very likely, some of his former neighbors were affected. The Arkansas church that helped is in the association where my father was director of missions for 22 years.

It is heartening to hear of the response of the Southern Baptist churches to the

needs of folks at Seagoville Road Church. Truly, it was a tragic occurrence.

We Southern Baptists, however, need to give even more serious thought to the Seagoville Road Church tragedy. We are major contributors to the travel industry. Without question there is more money spent by Southern Baptists crisscrossing the nation than by any other denomination. Only the Catholics are larger, and it is doubtful that they travel as much as we do.

We travel a great deal. We send young people on missions trips and to retreats in never-ending caravans.

Unquestionably, an enormous amount of good is accomplished by these trips. Not only is missions work enhanced, but the young people are provided experiences that will help them be more missions conscious throughout life.

And not only do the young people travel. Adults and senior adults do at least their share also. Senior adults especially are becoming more mobile in church-related travel.

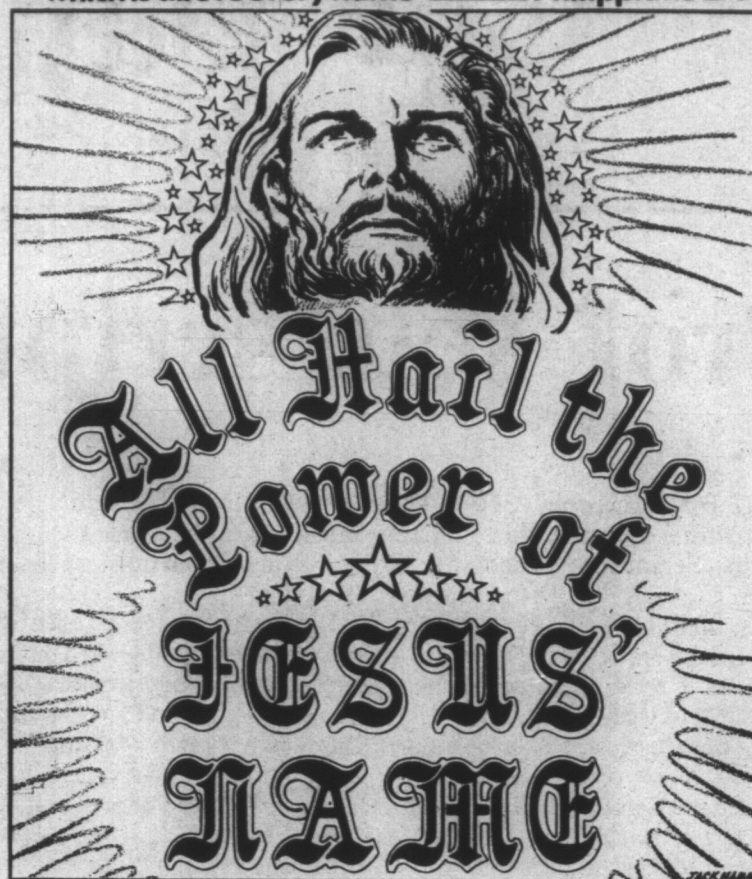
The point is that travel carries with it a certain amount of danger. This piece would not at all suggest that Southern

Baptists should cut down on the travel, but it would say that extreme caution should be exercised. That is the least we can do.

The word is that the Seagoville Road group that got caught in the flood was being cautious. There was one little problem that should have been corrected, but that comes from hindsight. There were no radios at the camp because of a policy prohibiting them, and the leaders were not aware of the seriousness of the situation. They knew they needed to leave quickly; but when they got to the low-water crossing over the Guadalupe River, it was covered. As they tried to turn around in the road approaching the crossing and return to the camp, the wall of water hit. Ten young people lost their lives.

We shouldn't give up our travel. The Lord commanded us to go; and when we feel we are fulfilling his will by going, we should go. But we must be very careful. We must do the best we can by all means possible to make the trips as safe as possible. We shouldn't send our children and young people and senior adults out in inadequate buses.

"GOD has highly exalted Him, and given Him a Name which is above every name" — Philippians 2:9



We need our retreats and our mission trips. We also need to use good judgment and exercise extreme caution as we go. Comfort is in a very beautiful section

of Texas called the hill country. It is a lovely setting for a spiritual retreat. It was a tragic setting for Seagoville Road Baptist Church.

Guest opinion . . .

GROWING TOGETHER: Singles and Churches

By Cliff Allbritton

When the crisp autumn air turns the leaves to brilliant orange, flaming red, and dazzling gold across the mountainsides, some 5,000 to 7,000 single adults from across our land load into cars, vans, church buses, and planes to head for Ridgecrest, North Carolina (15 miles east of Asheville) and Glorieta, New Mexico (15 miles east of Santa Fe).

Every fall, thousands converge on the two mountain top conference centers for the spectacular SINGLE ADULT LABOR DAY WEEKEND CONFERENCES.

These conferences have been going on since 1964 and major on spiritual growth, enrichment, personal development, leadership training, social activities, sight-seeing, and sports.

Labor Day Weekend this year is September 4-7, and is the first of four major celebrations in the "Year of the Single" 1987-88 emphasis — "GROWING TOGETHER: Singles and Churches" sponsored by the Family Ministry Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board. The other three

events are: SINGLE ADULT DAY, September 13, 1987, in all Southern Baptist churches: "Single Challenge '88" — the first Baptist Single Adult Convention, Memorial Day Weekend, May 27-30, 1988 at the new Convention Center/Opryland U.S.A. in Nashville, Tenn.; and a special study in every local church of the book GROWING TOGETHER: Singles and churches during June, July, August, 1988.

Leaders for the Labor Day Conference are: RIDGECREST: Jerry Hayner, Raleigh, N.C.; Julian Suggs,

Brentwood, Tenn.; Richard Huggins, Edmond, Kentucky; Jean Costner, Birmingham, Ala.; Story Source, Louisville, KY; Harold Ivan Smith, Kansas City, Missouri. GLORIETA: Bill Pinson, Dallas, Tex.; Gerald Ware, Richardson, Tex.; Bob Bailey, Nashville, Tenn.; Ware Triplets, Okla. and Tex.; Jeanette Clift George, Houston, Tex.; Jim Towns, Nacogdoches, Tex.

Cliff Allbritton is a staff member in the Sunday School Board's Family Ministry Department.

RTVC names Wright to post

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Michael A. Wright has been named director of affiliate relations for the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, succeeding G. William Nichols, who resigned to join a San Antonio advertising agency.

Wright was American Christian Television Service regional manager before becoming vice president for

cable relations of the ACTS network in 1986.

ACTS is owned and operated by the Radio and Television Commission. Wright will continue as vice president for cable relations while assuming the affiliate relations responsibilities.

Nichols, who has been senior vice president for cable relations since 1982, will join Atkins and Associates,

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints," (Psalm 16:15) said Bill Baker, pastor of First Church, Clinton, as the funeral service for Evie (Mrs. A. L.) Goodrich. Mrs. Goodrich died July 26. She was 90 years of age. Though I did not know her well, it was evident from the remarks of Dr. Baker that Mrs. Goodrich was one of God's saints.

I knew her because she was the widow of a former editor of the Baptist Record. A. L. Goodrich was editor from 1941 until 1956. Before 1941 he was circulation manager for the paper.

No doubt Mrs. Goodrich supported Dr. Goodrich in his work, and it was Dr. Goodrich who introduced to Southern Baptists what is perhaps the most far-reaching innovation in Southern Baptist state paper history.

Inc. of San Antonio. He said he would work with the Atkins organization "to assist ACTS in national and local advertising sales, marketing, merchandising, and public relation activities."

Atkins and ACTS recently reached a tentative agreement to name the San Antonio firm to be the network's national representative.

And that history goes back to 1823, when Luther Rice established the Columbian Star, which is now the Christian Index of Georgia.

That innovation was what is called in Mississippi the Every Family Plan. It is a plan whereby the paper is sent to every resident family and paid for out of their gifts to the church through the church treasury. It is paid monthly to make the cost easier for the church to handle, though state paper subscription rates are notoriously low.

The idea was not altogether that of Dr. Goodrich. He was visiting in Sunflower in 1936 and circulation was low, about 4,000. He mentioned to the church secretary, a young lady named Josie McEachern, that he was seeking a way to increase the circulation. She suggested sending the paper to every family, paying for it out of the church budget, and billing the churches once a month.

Dr. Goodrich put this idea into effect, and circulation began to climb. It is now 121,000.

The every family concept was adopted by every Baptist state paper in the nation, and total circulation of all the papers has become almost two million.

Mrs. McEachern died a few years ago. She was living in Eupora. Both Mrs. McEachern and Mrs. Goodrich lived to see the fruits reaped from the Every Family Plan concept.

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Send news and communications to
The Editor, Baptist Record
P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

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Soviet Bible imports are Owen Cooper legacy

By John M. Wilkes

AMMAN, Jordan (BP) — Baptist men of the world will ship 100,000 Russian-language Bibles to the Soviet Union.

They will lead in raising \$250,000 during the next six months to support a Baptist World Alliance/United Bible Societies joint Bible project.

The project was approved by the BWA General Council at its annual meeting here, July 5-12. Baptist men worldwide will provide about one-half of the \$500,000 needed. The remainder will come from United Bible Society support funds.

The BWA action followed a motion by James H. Smith, president of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, at a conference of Baptist men the previous week in Cardiff, Wales. Smith urged that the BWA men's department take responsibility for the Baptist share of the project's cost, and that the effort be a memorial to the late Owen Cooper, former president of the department. Cooper, who was from Yazoo City, was the last layman to serve as SBC president.

The Russian Bibles will cost about \$5 each for paper, printing, and shipping.

"Five dollars is a small amount to pay for a Bible anywhere," Smith said. "There has been so much talk in recent years about underground means (of getting Bibles into the Soviet Union), many people think that is the only way. Now here is a way to send the Bible through the front door. And since Baptists are a law-abiding people, we feel it's our responsibility to go through this open door."

The Bibles will be delivered early in 1988 to The All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the Soviet Union.

The All-Union Council received an import permit in June after BWA General Secretary Gerhard Class sent a letter outlining the proposal to Konstantin M. Kharcher of the Soviet Union Council of Ministers.

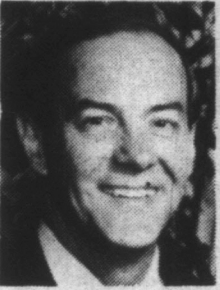
The gift is to mark the 1,000th anniversary of the Russian Orthodox Church, organized in 988, a celebration which will be observed by all Soviet Christians.

All-Union Council General Secretary Alexei M. Bichkov said: "A few years ago Soviet Baptists began praying to receive 2 million Bibles."

(Continued on page 4)

State Baptist Youth Night to feature Morris, Gabriel

Mississippi Baptist Youth Night will take place Friday, Aug. 7, at 6:45 p.m. at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson.



Morris

Featured speaker will be Harold Morris, a former resident of death row in the Georgia State Penitentiary. During his imprisonment he made a commitment to Jesus Christ. Later, he was pardoned by the Georgia governor and he began a speaking and writing ministry in Atlanta. He is the author of the book "Twice Pardoned," and is the subject of a new Focus on the Family Film Series.

Musicians for the program will be Gabriel, a contemporary Christian musical group. The group, based in Texas, consists of Robin Lyle, Robert Nolan, and Jeff Walter.

Additionally, Hicks and Cohagan of Kansas City who will entertain with their Christian-oriented comedy sketches. They have toured with the Bill Gaither Trio.

The Youth Night program will begin with a multi-media presentation depicting youth mission trips from slides provided by youth groups from around the state.



Gabriel: Walter, Lyle and Nolan.



Hicks and Cohagan

Youth Night is sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. One adult sponsor is requested for every seven youths.

Home Mission Board tightens hiring policies on divorce, glossolalia

Joe Westbury

ATLANTA (BP) — Individuals seeking missionary appointment by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board will have to submit to tighter guidelines concerning divorce and glossolalia following action by the agency's board of directors.

As a result of the new policy, divorced people rarely will be appointed or approved unless their divorce was based on "biblical rationale" as outlined by the board. That rationale was defined as being limited to cases of adultery or fornication and in instances of desertion or physical abandonment by a spouse.

The policy, adopted during the July 29 full board meeting, also states that no divorced individual will be considered for a pastoral role unless the divorce meets the biblical guidelines and the applicant has not remarried.

People now serving who have been divorced and remarried will remain

in service. All missions personnel currently serving and divorcing or remarrying will be re-evaluated under the terms of the new policy.

Board member Don Aderhold, who presented the recommendation from the personnel committee, explained that the new guidelines also apply to spouses of missionary candidates since they also are appointed or approved in the hiring process. The policy makes no provision for candidates whose divorce was prior to their Christian conversion, he added.

The board action, which passed 48-20 on a roll-call vote, rewrites former policy that evaluated each instance of divorce on its own merit. For nearly two decades individuals have been employed, after evaluation, if their divorce did not impair their ministry.

Board member James Walters, pastor of First Baptist Church of Mobile, Ala., was one of a half-dozen

directors who challenged the new policy and sought its defeat.

"Certainly I'm for the ideal, but I'm also concerned about the redeeming aspects of the gospel and the message that we are implying. Is divorce the unpardonable sin? Are we going to throw rocks or ropes" to people who have been involved in divorce? he asked the board.

New board member Olan Wills, pastor of Springhead Baptist Church in Plant City, Fla., countered by saying he was sympathetic to those who disagreed with the proposal but added, "We as pastors and Christians cannot go on sympathy but on God's word, and it says, 'Let him be the husband of one wife.'"

Jim Strickland, pastor of Heritage Baptist Church in Cartersville, Ga., challenged the biblical rationale by referring to Old Testament personalities Moses and King David who

(Continued on page 4)

Foreign hunger gifts drop, domestic giving increases

Tim Fields

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptist giving to world hunger relief during the first six months of 1987 plummeted for the second consecutive year from record giving set in 1985.

Figures released by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board show gifts to its overseas hunger relief program during the first half of 1987 are 22 percent below the six-month total for 1986 and more than 51 percent below the six-month total for 1985.

Through June, the Foreign Mission Board received \$2.6 million, compared to almost \$3.4 million in the first half of 1986 and \$5.5 million through the first half of 1985.

In contrast, gifts of \$570,363 given through June 1987 for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board domestic hunger relief program were more than 10 percent above comparable figures for 1986 and nearly 15 percent above the 1985 six-month total.

Annual Southern Baptist gifts to domestic and overseas hunger peaked at more than \$11.8 million in 1985 and fell to about \$9.1 million last year. John Cheyne, director of the human needs department of the Foreign Mission Board, said if giving to overseas hunger during the remainder of 1987 continues to decline at its present rate, FMB hunger receipts for 1987 could fall below \$6 million. Giving to overseas hunger has not been that low since 1983.

"One of the great tragedies of facing the continuing hunger crisis in Third World countries such as Mozambique, the Sudan and the

region called Sahel is that it apparently takes a horror film to make people aware of the scope and severity of the problem," Cheyne lamented.

"The problem of hunger will continue to get more severe from now until the turn of the century," he said. "Unless Southern Baptists can develop some major strategies in the context of our whole mission strategy, we will not be able to deal effectively with the hunger problem."

Cheyne said the Foreign Mission Board is meeting with area directors around the world to develop mission strategy papers that will be used to develop a global hunger plan.

According to Cheyne, the Foreign Mission Board is giving special attention to Mozambique, which is now the No. 1 country on the human suffering index. "Distributing food to the hungry in Mozambique is complex because of internal conflicts and severe drought in the country," he said.

"An estimated 4.5 million people in Mozambique are at risk to hunger out of a population of 11 million, and 2.2 million people have already been directly affected."

The Foreign Mission Board's missions hot line includes a request for a convention-wide prayer alert for drought-stricken Mali, where the Islamic president of the country has made an unprecedented request for evangelicals of Mali to pray for rain.

Tim Fields writes for the Christian Life Commission.

HMB installs Lewis as 15th president

By Joe Westbury

ATLANTA (BP) — Larry Lewis was installed as the 15th president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board July 28 during a banquet attended by state and national denominational leaders and elected board employees.

More than 400 people attended the event at Atlanta's Colony Square Hotel where Lewis, who assumed the presidency June 1, was affirmed for his longstanding commitment to church starting and home missions.

The program featured testimonies by Robert Curtis, pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church of High Ridge, Mo., who recommended Lewis for the post; Troy Morrison, director of church-minister relations for the Alabama Baptist Convention in Montgomery and chairman of the search committee that selected Lewis; and Bob Banks, executive vice president of the board who was interim president.

Adrian P. Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, and president of the Southern Baptist Convention, delivered the challenge and spoke of the need for godly leadership in the nation, the denomination, and the Home Mission Board.

"I thank God for Larry Lewis because he began at the bottom of the denominational ladder and did a man's service," Rogers said as he related Lewis' experience as a church planter and mission pastor.

Rogers said it was not wrong to be ambitious if the motivation was for

spiritual gain: "Jesus never told us not to be great, he taught us how to be great — by becoming a servant to the world. To do less than your best is a sin against God."

The Memphis pastor then listed three kinds of evil that Christian leaders should avoid — selfish priorities, sinful pride, and sterile professionalism.

Lewis recounted that while he was considering the position and hesitating to accept the responsibility of leading Southern Baptist home missions efforts, he received spiritual encouragement from Scripture reading.

"With that still, small voice we hear with our heart, with our soul, God said to my mind and my heart, 'Don't try to understand it. Don't attempt to comprehend it. You simply can't figure it out. Just know that I am in it.'"

"I say tonight that I never heard God speak to me more certainly or more clearly than he did that night. His voice was like a siren in my soul."

Lewis concluded by promising he would never begin his workday without first talking with God and seeking his direction and then giving him the glory for each victory.

Harold C. Bennett, president of the SBC Executive Committee in Nashville, delivered the commitment prayer at the conclusion of the evening.

Joe Westbury writes for the HMB.

State gifts exceed budget

Mississippi Baptists forwarded a total of \$1,599,351 in July through their unified budget plan, the Cooperative Program, according to Earl Kelly, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The total amount for 1987 is \$10,808,569, which is \$325,198 more than that given in the same period of 1986.

A pro rata amount which would pro-

vide the total 1987 budget of \$18,150,000, would call for \$10,587,500 by the end of July. The gift total thus far places Mississippi Baptists \$221,069 ahead of the pro rata amount, or 2.09 percent.

To make the budget, Mississippi Baptist churches would need to average \$1,468,286 per month for the rest of 1987.

HMB tightens policies

(Continued on page 3)

committed murder and adultery, respectively, but who God later used in leadership positions.

"Just which biblical material do we talk about and which do we leave out?" he asked.

Wanda Haworth, treasurer of Centertown Baptist Church in Centertown, Mo., noted there are numerous moral absolutes in Scripture but added: "Everyday probably most of us here break some of them. I urge the defeat of this because we live under a day of grace, not of law."

In other action, the directors approved a recommendation that will prohibit employment of missionary candidates who actively participate in or promote glossolalia, commonly

known as "speaking in tongues."

The policy replaces a similarly worded recommendation that was tabled at the March board meeting because directors felt it was too broad in its referral to the modern charismatic movement and its "private prayer language."

Under the new policy, any current missions personnel who are appointed, approved or endorsed by the board and who become involved in glossolalia will be counseled by an HMB representative. Continued participation in glossolalia will result in termination of employment.

Strickland voiced lone opposition to the policy, challenging it due to a lack of definition of glossolalia.

Joe Westbury writes for the HMB.



Children buy Bibles for Poland

When the Royal Ambassadors and Girls in Action classes of Pine Forest Church, Collinsville, heard George Ratz speak to their church about missions to Poland, they wanted to help. And help they did . . . by raising enough money to have 553 Bibles printed in the Polish language and sent to Ratz to be distributed behind the Iron Curtain.

"These young Christians displayed their desire to spread the 'Good News' by lending a helping hand. They showed their faith that God can do a mighty work and knows no obstacle in reaching the lost and oppressed," stated Wayne Guy.

Brotherhood leaders invited to training conferences

Beginning Oct. 1, new programs and materials are being put into use by the Brotherhood Commission to help churches involve men and boys in missions.

For nearly three years a select committee made a thorough study of Brotherhood with the help of specialists. The subsequent revisions represent the consensus of opinion of the men devoting their lives to the work of Baptist Men and Royal Ambassadors.

The restructure is: Royal Ambassadors, grades 1-9; High School Baptist Young Men, grades 10-12; Baptist Young Men, ages 18-34; Baptist Men, 35 and up.

New training and curriculum materials have been designed to service these organizations. All of these are available now from the Baptist Book Store in Jackson and the Brotherhood Commission in

Memphis.

To effect a smooth and effective transition, all Brotherhood leadership is invited to attend September training conferences. There will be a conference for each of the four divisions of Brotherhood work: Royal Ambassadors, Baptist Young Men, Baptist Men, and Brotherhood Administration. Conferences begin at 7 p.m. and will be conducted in the following areas of the state.

Sept. 14: First Church, Senatobia; First Baptist Church, New Albany; North Greenwood Church, Greenwood.

Sept. 15: Calvary Church, Starkville; Ridgecrest Church, Jackson; Poplar Springs Church, Meridian.

Sept. 17: First Church, Brookhaven; Temple Church, Hattiesburg; First Church, Ocean Springs.

Veteran RTVC staffers resign

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Two veteran staff members of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission and the ACTS network have resigned to join the world's largest direct broadcast satellite network.

Jim Rupe and John Cobb Smith have been employed as executives of the Automotive Satellite Television Network. The network offers daily news and training for the automotive industry to 2,000 subscribers nationwide.

Rupe, a 24-year employee of the RTVC, is executive producer of the

network. Smith, who was on the commission staff for more than 31 years, is director of operations for ASTN.

Rupe, an executive producer for the RTVC, developed the "Country Crossroads" radio and television shows. Smith, director of TV operations, was in a number of roles at the commission. For the past five years he has coordinated the image magnification, sound and lighting for the Southern Baptist Convention.

Registration still open for senior meet

There is still time to register for the fourth Senior Adult Conference Aug. 18 to 22 at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, according to J. Clark Hensley, senior adult consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Church Training Department.

The preacher for the conference will be C. Penrose St. Amant, distinguished professor at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Others on the conference program include W. L. Howse III, senior adult consultant for the Sunday School Board; Glen Pearson, retired physician of Hattiesburg; and Bob Williams, pastor of Cambridge Church, Gautier, and area senior adult consultant.

Don McGregor, Baptist Record editor, will be a faculty member and serve as music director.

Organist for the conference will be Art Nelson, retired business manager for the Mississippi Baptist Convention board. The pianist will be Irene Martin of Harpersville.

Ethel McKeithen, senior adult area consultant from Jackson, will serve on the faculty as will both Clark and Margaret Hensley of Jackson.

Registration requests should be accompanied by \$30 per person and sent to Frank Simmons, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss. 39571. The telephone number is (601) 452-7261.

The total cost is \$109.25 per person for the five-day conference, which includes all meals and lodging.

Soviet Bibles, Cooper legacy

(Continued on page 3)

Since 1976, through the Bible societies with BWA help, we already had been given more than 150,000 copies of the word of God. This latest development brings us fully one-fourth of the way toward achieving our prayer goal."

"Southern Baptists have been saying a great deal about the Bible," said Smith of the project. "This is our opportunity to demonstrate our faith in the power of the Bible."

John Wilkes is director of the BWA department of communications.

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Thursday, August 6, 1987

Devotional

Discovering our spiritual gifts

By Wayne G. Berry
Ephesians 4:12

The subject of spiritual gifts, important in the life of the early church but too often neglected through the centuries, has recently risen into prominence in the modern church life and thinking.



Berry

When the young church at Jerusalem faced the complaint of discrimination in the administration of daily welfare, the apostles urged believers to seek out godly and gifted men to handle the problem. So the congregation chose men with the gift of wisdom. The result was an increase in the ministry of the Word and in the number of disciples (Acts 6:1-7).

Among other purposes, "we are saved to serve." To equip for service, God gives one or more spiritual gifts to every Christian. He does not want "deadwood" in his church.

Every child of God has a gift or gifts. Our gifts are assigned to us when we are born by the Holy Spirit into the family of God. Though gifts may lie dormant for months or years, they are given at our spiritual birthday.

Paul emphasized the giving of gifts. "Unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ" (Eph. 4:7). "The manifestation of the spirit is given to every man to profit withal" (I Cor. 12:7).

We are a gifted child of God. We also an outlet for our gift, we are to minister and serve. Three days after confronting Jesus on the Damascus Road, Paul was told by Ananias that his ministry was to bear the name of Jesus Christ before Gentiles and kings (Acts 9:15).

Though every believer is not exercising his gift, nor even knows what it is, nevertheless, every Christian has received one or more gifts to be used for the upbuilding of the church, and for which he will one day render account. "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Romans 14:12).

Just as many notes are needed to make harmony, and many colors to make a painting, so many gifts are essential for the functioning of the body of Christ. Paul put it, "For the body is not one member, but many" (I Cor. 12:14).

Let's all discover our gift or gifts and use them for God's Kingdom here on earth.

Wayne Berry is pastor, Calvary, Greenwood.

Mississippi brigades work in Honduras

Three volunteer groups from Mississippi, totaling 75 persons in one medical brigade and three construction projects, have worked this year in the El Progreso area of Honduras, with Missionary Stanley Stamps.

The first group coordinated by Carl Myers was sponsored by the Pearl River County Association with several participants from First Church, Eupora and East Edgewater Church of New Orleans. Part of the group formed a medical brigade that worked in villages near Tela.

During the week they attended, 2,022 patients in general medicine, 350 dental patients with 863 extractions, 431 eye examinations and 6,067 prescriptions. A total of 367 professions of faith were recorded and a small new congregation was formed in the village of Lempira, Yoro.

Fifteen persons of this group stayed in El Progreso to help construct a new chapel for Mount Calvary Church, a new work begun in a development on the eastern extension of El Progreso's main street. They were able to rough finish the first phase of the building project with the roof in place. Although the 35 by 40 foot building had only a dirt floor and no classrooms, the following week they had a Vacation Bible School there with 193 enrolled. Sunday School was begun the following Sunday.

A team of 18 from Carroll and Montgomery Associations, including two from Bolivar Association, assisted in

the construction of the ground floor of a classroom building for Hosanna Baptist Church in Colonia Bendeck on El Progreso's southern growing edge. In addition to the education building, this team led by their director of missions, Nolan Houston, constructed 60 new pews, three pulpits, and over a dozen tables for children's classes.

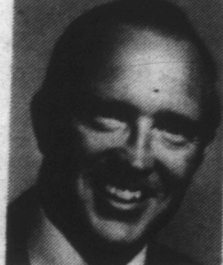
This was the fourth consecutive year that those associations have sponsored volunteer teams to work in Honduras. Their participation along with that of a group from Meridian, has resulted in the construction of four new mission chapels, four classroom buildings, several pulpits and tables, and about 150 pews.

For the first time, a group of 14 went from the Gulf Coast Association, led by Jim Dalrymple. Among the members was the vice-president of New Orleans Theological Seminary, Don Stewart, and a stevedore, Aubrey Warden, who helps unload bananas from the ships that arrive in Gulfport from Honduras. They were able to visit Buena Vista and get to know members of Canaan Baptist Church who work on the banana plantation where some of the bananas originate.

"These groups willingly sacrifice vacation time and invest personal funds in order to come. They are Cooperative Program stretchers and Lottie Moon helpers who enable us to go far beyond what we otherwise could do. We are grateful to God for them and appreciate them individually very much," said Stamps.

State man named president Philippine Seminary

Paul Johnson, a 20-year career missionary, has been named president of the Philippine Baptist Seminary in Baguio.



Johnson

The Bassfield, Miss., native is a graduate of Mississippi College and earned the bachelor of divinity and doctor of divinity degrees from New Orleans Seminary.

Johnson and his wife, Vera Rose, have two grown children.

Johnson replaces Grover Tyner, who is retiring after 22 years as president.

Extension center sets classes

NEW ORLEANS — The schedule of classes has been announced for Term I at the Jackson, Miss., extension center of New Orleans Seminary.

All courses are accredited for the master of divinity, master of religious education, and associate of divinity degree programs.

Registration for master's level courses will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 24. Classes will meet Aug. 24 through Oct. 12 at Mississippi Baptist Seminary, 3160 Lynch St.

Master's level courses offered during

Term I will be "Pastoral Work" (1-5 p.m. Mondays), and "Church and Ministry" (6-10 p.m. Mondays).

Registration for associate level courses will be at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25. Classes will meet from 6:30 to 10 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Mississippi Baptist Seminary. Courses offered will be "Evangelism" and "Sociology."

For more information, contact the Registry Office, New Orleans Seminary, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, La. 70126.

"It's tragic that Jews can't pray on temple mount"

JERUSALEM, Israel (EP) — Six members of Israel's Knesset Interior Committee toured Jerusalem's Temple Mount in mid-June and emerged with conflicting accounts regarding reports that Moslem authorities were building a new Mosque on the site.

The government delegation was guarded by 800 police and border police at a cost of "tens of thousands of shekels," according to a police spokesman.

After the tour, three committee members said Moslems were working in the area known as Solomon's Stables, building a mosque that could accommodate thousands. "As a Jew, I am forbidden to go up quietly and pray on the Temple Mount," commented committee chairman Don Shilansky. "But Moslems are permitted to take areas that were not mosques and now build another mosque larger than Al-Aksa."

Dov Ben-Meir, a member of the Labor party, disagreed with Shilansky. "I saw that they are installing an electrical system in Solomon's Stables," he admitted. "It was explained to us that they want to pray there, too. I don't see a change in that anyway. They're not building any kind of temple there. They can pray wherever they want."

According to provisions of a 1967 agreement between Moslem officials and the Israeli government, Jews are not permitted to pray on the Temple Mount. A violent confrontation was narrowly averted in late April when several Jews tried to enter the elevated area of the Temple Mount and enter the Dome of The Rock, a Moslem shrine.

The group's leader, Gershon Solomon, said he found it tragic that Jews cannot pray in the one place that is their spiritual center, the site of the Temple built by Solomon.

Allison Bell dies in Okolona

F. Allison Bell, 93, died July 21, at Okolona Community Hospital after a lengthy illness. He was the organizing pastor of Parkway Church, Tupelo. He served as interim pastor of Harrisburg and Sherman Churches and was a former pastor of Okolona Baptist Church. He was deacon for 12 years at Calvary Baptist Church where he taught Sunday School for 20 years.

Bell was a past president of the Tupelo Chamber of Commerce and Tupelo Rotary Club; a member of the Okolona Chamber of Commerce; a member of the Tupelo School Board for several years; and was instrumental in developing the Tupelo area Artificial Insemination Association to benefit dairy farming. He was a holder of the Silver Beaver Award; a past president of Yocono Council of the Boy Scouts.

He was the district manager for Mississippi Natural Gas in Tupelo for 17 years.

Services were held Thursday at First Church, Okolona with Robert Shirley, Silas Johnson and Roy McHenry officiating. Burial was in Tupelo Memorial Park Cemetery. Abrams Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Patsy Griffin Bell of Okolona; one son, Oliver Ferguson of Durham, N.C.; two sisters, Sally Kaiser and Alice Alewine, both of Atlanta, Ga.; two brothers, Brooks Bell of Atlanta and Robert Bell of Scottsboro, Ala.

Mississippian named to Golden Gate staff

J. David Tate has been named admissions counselor and director of prospective student services at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif.

He replaces Bob Royall who resigned in June to accept the position of director of Baptist Student Ministries at the University of Idaho in Moscow. In this position, Tate will coordinate admissions, recruitment and housing for prospective students. He will also oversee the alumni placement service for the seminary.

Previously, Tate served as a church planter in the Chicago metropolitan area. He has also worked on the staff of Golden Gate Seminary as a consultant in the spiritual formation department, as well as assisting in the development and administration of the Seminary's L.I.F.E. evangelism teams.

Before graduating from Golden Gate, Tate served as minister of youth and music at several Baptist churches in Mississippi, as well as associate pastor for evangelism and music at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Vallejo, Calif.

Tate received his bachelor of science degree in psychology from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, and the master of divinity degree from Golden Gate.

Tate and his wife Sandra have one son, Joshua David.



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Southern Baptists minister to bus accident victims

By Jerilynn Armstrong and
Ken Camp

DALLAS (BP) — Nine youth were killed and one left missing when the rain-swollen Guadalupe River overturned a van and bus from Seagoville Road Baptist Church in Balch Springs, Texas, on July 17.

Forty-three people from the independent Baptist church in southern Dallas County were leaving Pot O' Gold Bible Camp, near Comfort, Texas, when flood waters swept away their vehicles.

From south central Texas to southwestern Arkansas, Southern Baptists reached out to the hurting families of a grieving church.

A Southern Baptist deacon from Texarkana, Ark., involved his church in helping to rush one family to the scene of the tragedy.

John and Rosie Bankston had been vacationing in Hot Springs, Ark., when they learned that their 17-year-old son, John Jr., was involved in the bus accident and still was missing. Speeding down westbound Interstate 30 with emergency lights flashing, the couple was stopped and questioned.

After discovering the reason for their excessive speed, troopers brought the Bankstons to the Department of Safety headquarters where officers made calls to get more information about the accident.

At the headquarters, Cpl. Mike Brown, a deacon at Trinity Baptist Church, Texarkana, Ark., heard the couple's story and volunteered to find a way to fly them to Comfort.

Since no commercial flights were available, Brown and other troopers began to search for a private plane. Brown succeeded in reaching the general manager of an aviation service owned by Trumand Arnold, owner of the Roadrunner chain of con-

venience stores, who offered to fly the couple to Comfort for the discounted rate of \$900.

The trooper agreed to see that the bill was paid, and the Bankstons flew from Texarkana to central Texas, leaving their pickup truck with Brown.

The next morning, Brown approached his pastor, Wallace Edgar, and told him about the Bankstons.

"Mike came up to me just before the second worship service and asked if he could share something with the church," Edgar said. "He told about the events of the last 12 hours, and the people responded with a love offering of nearly \$500 for the family."

Roadrunner Corporation accepted the \$500 as full payment for services, writing off the rest of the bill.

"We praise the Lord for the spirit of concern that Mike demonstrated," said Edgar. "Though we were not directly involved with the tragedy, we are thankful that our church could minister to one family."

Edgar said members of the congregation drove the Bankstons' truck to Balch Springs. John Bankston Jr. is the one person who remains missing.

Several central Texas Baptist churches opened their homes and hearts to the families of Seagoville Road Baptist Church.

First Baptist Church, Confort; First Baptist Church, Boerne; and Trinity Baptist Church, Kerrville, all supplied volunteers from their congregations to help make up the search teams which scoured the banks of the Guadalupe River for the bodies.

Members of First Baptist of Comfort made sandwiches for families of the victims, and Pastor James Holt

spent an afternoon praying and counseling with the teenagers.

"A large part of the time I would pray individually with the kids, but later in the afternoon we joined hands in a prayer circle asking for strength and peace. It was a moving experience to see the love and support these teenagers had for one another and the witness they gave to people outside their fellowship," Holt said.

First Baptist of Boerne received a call from one of the rescue team coordinators to send blankets and clothing for the teenagers rescued from the flooding river.

"Our church is known as a caring fellowship and one that can respond quickly," said Mark Boyd, associate minister. "We sent down about 60 blankets and available clothing. Flooding similar to this happened in 1978, so we are aware that it can strike quickly with devastating results."

Bill Blackburn, pastor of Trinity Baptist in Kerrville, heard the reports and immediately began to get ready to respond.

"We were in touch with the Texas Baptist Disaster Relief team, but the decision was made not to send the unit when the water began to recede by mid-morning and there was very little property damage," Blackburn said.

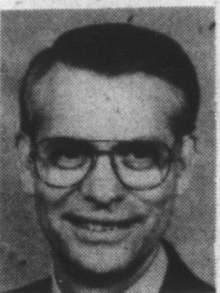
He and his church staff counseled with the families of the two teenagers taken to the Kerrville hospitals and provided counselors for the group in Comfort.

"Trinity is known as a fellowship of people who care, so this was simply an extension of our concern," Blackburn said.

Jerilynn Armstrong and Ken Camp writes for Texas Baptists.

Maryland/Delaware elects Jacksonian staff director

Ferman "Dee" Solomon, minister of music at Jackson's Calvary Baptist Church, has been elected Church



Training/Church Music director for the Maryland/Delaware Baptist Convention.

A North Carolina native, Solomon has been on the Calvary staff since 1984, first as minister of

media, then since 1985 as minister of music.

Solomon is a master of music graduate from Towson State Univer-

sity, in the same area where the Maryland/Delaware convention offices are located. He is also a graduate of Sanford University.

He was earlier a minister of music at Oak Grove Church, Bel Aire, Md.; at Gregory Memorial and Middle River churches, Baltimore; and at churches in Alabama, North Carolina, and Florida.

Solomon taught vocal music at the secondary level for 14 years and supervised music students from Peabody Institute and Towson State. He is a state approved worker in television and broadcast services.

Solomon and his wife, Sylvia, have one son.

Employers must complete forms to verify employees' citizenship

By Eric Fox

WASHINGTON (BP) — All employers, including churches and other religious organizations, now are required to verify their employees are legally authorized to work in the United States.

This requirement, part of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, took effect June 1, 1987. Under the new law, all employers, regardless of the number of people they employ, are required to fill out a form that confirms their employees are either American citizens or aliens who are eligible to work in the United States.

The government requires Form I-9 to be filled out for each new employee hired on or after June 1, 1987, and for every employee hired between Nov. 7, 1986, and May 31, 1987, who still is employed. Those employees must complete the top half of Form I-9 on or before the day they start work. Employees who were hired between Nov. 7, 1986, and May 31, 1987, and who still are employed have until Sept. 1, 1987, to fill out the form.

During the first three days of employment, employees must provide their employer with original documents — such as an original driver's license, Social Security card or birth certificate — to establish their identity and eligibility to work. The employer then must complete the bottom half of Form I-9 by certifying that the original documents have been inspected. Employees who are unable to obtain these documents within the three-day period may have up to 21 days to produce the required documents if they show proof they have applied for the documents.

The forms must be retained by the employer for at least three years.

They are not filed with the government but must be presented to an Immigration and Naturalization Service or Department of Labor representative upon request. This registration process must be completed for all new employees, including American citizens.

These new requirements do not apply to people hired before Nov. 7, 1986; people hired after Nov. 6, 1986, who left employment before June 1, 1987; or people who are self-employed.

Due to public unawareness of the law, the INS will work with employers and only issue citations for the first

violation before May 31, 1988. But each violation following the initial citation and each violation after the 1988 date will result in monetary penalties.

The INS has undertaken a national campaign, including advertising spots and regional meetings, to inform employers about the law. The agency, in conjunction with the Internal Revenue Service, also distributed 6.6 million brochures to employers nationwide.

Further information and Form I-9s can be obtained by contacting the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 425 I St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20536.

Eric Fox is an intern with Baptist Joint Committee.

Evil spirits don't shackle Indonesian church's witness

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — A death-defying Indonesian congregation is at it again.

Jenar Baptist Church meets next to a cemetery — not a choice spot in an area where everyone else fears "evil spirits."

A bamboo stretcher is kept at the church for funerals in and around Purworejo, a village of several hundred people in central Java. Local Islamic leaders declined to keep it at the mosque.

Now the church plans to cultivate a field that supposedly has been infested with evil spirits for 42 years. Last December, after a Christmas service at one of the church's two preaching points, a local government official, a non-Christian, asked, "If your God is (as) powerful as you say, can he protect you if you cultivate this field?" The official offered to let the church grow rice on the field for four years.

The church decided to proceed, and a number of its 70 worshipers, along with representatives from other Protestant churches, gathered for a prayer meeting at the field, dedicating it to God. Next it was cleared and plowed.

All that remains is waiting for the proper agricultural conditions to plant the seed.

"The whole village is aware of this project," reports Wayne Pennell, a Southern Baptist missionary who told of the church's boldness during Foreign Missions Week at Ridgecrest

(N.C.) Baptist Conference Center. He has taught a theological education class at the church since 1974.

"Many have warned the church members not to go through with it," Pennell recounts. "They fear what might happen to those who do the work. They fear illness, mishaps, or even death."

Church members, however, are not just praying for God's protection, but also "for a testimony of God's power to the whole community," Pennell says.

Peace group to sponsor Cuba tour

The Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America is sponsoring a friendship tour to Cuba Mar. 30-Apr. 8, 1988.

Purpose of the trip, according to BPFNA president Ken Sehested, is to

establish personal contact between Baptists.

For details on the trip, contact Sehested at 222 East Lake Dr., Decatur, Ga. 30030.

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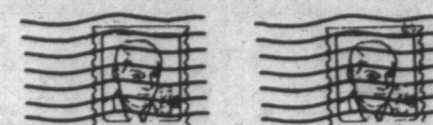
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Letters to the editor



Two major problems

Editor:

Your wishy-washy article entitled, "What If I'm Wrong," really highlighted two of the major problems that I see in our denomination.

1. We have a growing number of people, especially in denominational leadership and higher education, who give lip service to the authority of the Bible but in reality their intellect and opinion are their real source of authority. You listed four confessional statements that have been historic beliefs and admitted that most Southern Baptists still believe these and that even you believe these to be true. Then in the next breath you say "What if we are wrong?" We do not believe these because they are "Baptist beliefs" but because they are the truth of God's Word! If one accepted the Bible as authoritative, there would not be a question about these truths, nor would one consider it to be a violation of conscience to teach these truths in our colleges and seminaries.

2. We are drifting from our historic theological foundations. The fact that we now have professors and educators who do not believe and teach these truths, and the fact that the editor of a state Baptist paper would call for "parity" in teaching truths contrary to God's Word are indeed vivid illustrations of the drift toward liberalism that has taken place in our denomination. I do not believe that a professor should "have to" or be "forced" to teach the Bible as "truth without any mixture of error for its matter" as defined by the Peace Committee, but simply in good conscience resign and be replaced by those who without any violation of conscience or pressure could teach these foundational truths of God's Word. Baptists are not against diversity and the right of an individual to believe as he or she so chooses, but we are against the "right" of an individual to espouse liberal views and be supported financially by a majority of Baptists who do not believe and appreciate his liberal viewpoint.

Donald Bozeman, pastor
Southside Baptist Church
Jackson

There are no truths contrary to God's Word, and there has been no call in the Baptist Record for parity in teaching truths contrary to God's Word. And I do not agree that there is a growing number of people in denominational leadership and higher education who give lip service only to the authority of God's Word. In fact, if there ever were any sizeable number of such persons, I think the number is decreasing. Every person that I know in Baptist life, including denominational people and educators, believes determinedly in the Bible as God's Word and submits to its authority.

The what if I am wrong statement referred to different ideas on interpretation and not on belief in the Bible.

Parity, by the way, was not my word but that of the folks who initiated the effort that has resulted in the controversy. They spoke of wanting parity in seminary faculties early in the movement. Now nothing is heard of parity. — Editor

Support the report

Editor:

I commend you for your positive declarations "without any sort of equivocation" on the four examples given by the Peace Committee and quoted in your editorial of July 9, 1987. However, you state "Let us fervently hope that the list does not grow longer." Why not? Would you object to including such doctrines as the virgin birth; hell; Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection, just to name a few which most Baptists have been very clear in affirming? I don't believe you would object.

However, what really gives me pause is the injected tone of your editorial which leaves a shadow of question over the Peace Committee's report. The question "What if I'm wrong?" My Old Testament professor, Dr. Thomas Delaughter, at New Orleans Seminary had a patent response to such questions as "What if Adam and Eve had not sinned?" He very quietly would respond by saying, "Brother that's a 'what-a-fer' because they did sin." Therefore, as a pastor I cannot preach the "unsearchable riches" of the kingdom of God and close with a question mark about what I have just so positively stated.

I join you in the statement "Now let's all support that report (Peace Committee's) wholeheartedly."

L. J. Brewer, pastor
Meadowview Baptist Church
Starkville

Thank you for your words of commendation and for your reasonable letter. The editorial in question was intended to point out that for the first time in our history, Southern Baptists could stand in danger of having a creed. The Peace Committee, however, has insisted that its intent is not to try to enforce a creedal position; and we have no choice but to believe the committee and no reason not to.

The committee's determination not to be an enforcement agency is not subject to erosion because it has already established that it will be in existence for only three more years.

Yes, I believe in the four points established by the Peace Committee. I believe in the miracles as recorded in the scriptures, but I know of some conservatives who do not believe in all of them. I know there are some people who believe that Adam and Eve were representatives of all mankind rather than being literal people, but those same people probably believe in every one of the additional doctrinal points that you mentioned just as you and I do.

So, what about a longer list of official doctrinal points to which we must adhere to be Southern Baptists? As stated, I believe in every one that you mentioned; but once you begin adding up official doctrinal beliefs, where do you stop? Who decides where to stop? We believe them, but do we want to see them listed as a slate of required beliefs? That was the point. The "What if we are wrong?" was questioning the establishment of required interpretations, which in effect,

would rule out any further searching. The committee, however, has since declared that such restriction was not its intent. — Editor

Fears of suppression

Editor:

After seven years of roaming around the country with the United States Air Force, I can truly say that it is good to be back in Mississippi. It has been extremely nice for the Baptist Record to follow us from base to base and to keep up with what is going on our home front. We have just moved to Brookhaven from Shreveport where we were active members of the First Baptist Church.

Your editorial of the July 9 Record entitled, "What If I Am Wrong?" was extremely well written and thought provoking. Your stated fears of suppressing search for biblical and other forms of truth is certainly well founded. Dr. Bill Hull, our former pastor, gave us progress reports as he was an active member of the Peace Committee. There certainly seemed to be a minimal amount of compromise from the conservative camp, and I am not sure that I have knowledge of any specific instance where the fundamentalist faction has even sought resolution of an issue short of absolute and all-out victory for their cause.

By comparing the Baptist Record to other state papers where we have lived, I do believe that you are presenting a very unbiased and consistently excellent quality coverage of the issues and events concerning our Southern Baptists disagreements. Your recent editorial is certainly a prime example of such coverage. Thank you for your thoughtful insight. I hope that others who read it will also try to think through its implications.

John J. McGraw, M.D.
Brookhaven

Helped in healing

Editor:

I am writing to congratulate you on your editorial of July 9 entitled, "What If I'm Wrong." I find it to be one of the most healing of the editorials I have read after the Southern Baptist Convention. In a rather difficult time for the convention, healing and understanding are needed. I think that you have added to that process.

You will notice a new return address. I have recently moved from Atlanta to Cincinnati to take on some new duties. I will still be "the official Baptist watcher" for the National Council of Catholic Bishops. I will still be showing up at some of the national meetings. I plan to be in Nashville in September for the Executive Committee meeting.

(Rev.) Robert A. Dalton
Glenmary Home Missioners
Cincinnati, Ohio

Thanks! I needed that. — Editor

Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld.

Death penalty

Editor:

I have noticed several articles and letters published recently concerning capital punishment. Many attempts to speak for God have been made, but apparently the speakers were simply expressing their own opinions. God has already spoken on the subject, and he does not agree with them. Neither do I.

If we would know what God thinks on any subject we must go to the Bible, for this is the only place where God's thoughts are revealed. In the first book of the Bible immediately following the destruction of mankind for wickedness, God gives guidelines to help prevent a recurrence of this tragedy. Gen. 9:6 states very explicitly "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man." God hereby declares that it is the duty of mankind as a collective body to see

that individuals do not commit murder. Then in Exodus 21 immediately following the Ten Commandments, including "Thou (individual) shalt not kill," verse 12 establishes capital punishment for murder.

And if you are really interested in what God says about capital punishment, there are at least 10 crimes punishable by death.

They are: murder (Gen. 9:6, Ex. 21:12), adultery (Lev. 20:10), incest (Lev. 20:11-14), sodomy (Lev. 20:13), rape (Deut. 22:25), witchcraft (Ex. 22:18), disobedience to parents (Deut. 21:28-21), kidnapping (Ex. 21:16), blasphemy (Lev. 24:11-16), false doctrine (Deut. 13:1-10), and probably some others that I missed. At any rate, God not only endorses capital punishment; HE COMMANDS IT!

Doyle B. Cooper
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Women's faces reflect their joy in singing.

Mississippians in Burkino Faso

"Make us one, Father God, make us one"

By Dixie Ball

In June, a group of Mississippi Baptist women traveled to Burkina Faso, West Africa, to help the mission organization during its annual meeting held this year in the capital city of Ouagadougou.

The trip was organized by Monica Keathley, former missionary to Burkina Faso and now a consultant in the Mississippi Baptist Woman's Missionary Union office.

The six were L. K. Spivey, Griffith Memorial Church, Jackson; Dixie Ball, First Church, Jackson; Mary Ingram, First Church, West Point; Martha Kate Phillips, First Church, Calhoun City; Gail Benedict, Immanuel Church, Hattiesburg; and Monica Keathley, Woodland Hills Church, Jackson.

Our assignment was to help with the children and youths by providing Vacation Bible School and a musical which the children presented for all the parents. Monica directed the musical.

During the mission meeting, the missionaries take care of their

business and make plans for the coming year. It is a coveted time of fellowship and spiritual renewal. African worship services are different from ours, and the missionaries look forward to the mission meeting where they can worship together in English.

Before we left the U.S., Monica said to us, "Remember, their culture is no better and no worse than ours, it's just different." The beautiful thing, and most important, is that Christ died for us all alike.

It was such a joy to see the excitement of all the MK's. I was reminded over and over how much we take for granted, and what a privilege it is to hear God's Word taught.

At night the mission family gathered for inspirational singing and fun time. As we sang one night, "Make us one, Father God, make us one," I was struck with the reality of God's sovereignty and the truth that the only thing that really matters in any culture on earth is each person's relationship with Jesus Christ. Everything else is just "stuff," to quote my pastor, Frank Pollard.

We were anxious to see the Sanwabo

water project, which is probably the biggest relief project Southern Baptists have ever attempted. Sanwabo is about 120 miles from the capital in an isolated area out in the bush country. Under the direction of Larry Cox, volunteers from Tennessee have dug more than 30 lakes and 200 wells in Burkina Faso. Last summer some Baptist Student Union members from Mississippi State also went to Sanwabo to help with this project. One Tennessee volunteer has been there over a year and is teaching Africans to dig wells themselves. Because of this relief effort, many are listening to the gospel. Since 1984 in the Sanwabo area alone there have been more than 3,000 baptisms and 800 already this year. There are now 31 churches with more planned.

Missionaries are also trying to teach the people how to make their soil more fertile so that gardens will grow, and these wells are essential for watering gardens. Villages that want wells must contribute a small amount of the cost, then the Foreign Mission Board provides the rest through the Hunger and Relief Fund. Early in the morning the women all gather at the well to visit as they fill their water pots for the day.

We attended church one Sunday in the little village of Zaka, and although we couldn't understand each other's words, these two totally opposite cultures became one in the Spirit of Christ. "Love in any language, straight from the heart; binds us all together, never apart."



Volunteer Gail Benedict takes her preschool class "fishing" for scripture verses during VBS.



Dixie Ball of Jackson tries her skill on one of the native drums.



Volunteer Monica Keathley leads the missionary kids (MKs) as they perform the musical, "Great Men of God." The program was presented for their missionary parents and friends at the close of VBS.

We assured these people that our friends in America would join them in praying for rain. This is literally a life and death matter for them. That morning, after one of our group prayed for rain in English, the whole church suddenly started singing, "There shall be showers of blessing." It rained that night.

The first product of the missionaries' literacy program was George, who is pastor of three churches. Most of the pastors have been taught to read by the missionaries.

While Monica was a missionary in Burkina Faso, she began a student ministry at the university and a church in the Baptist Student Center to serve the more affluent Africans living in the city. Property has been acquiring a build a church building

across the street from the university. This church will cost \$24,000 to build, and so far \$12,000 has been given. If the church is not built within three years, the property will be reclaimed by the state. A church near the university for the educated and affluent Africans would be a real "shot in the arm" for the spread of the gospel in Burkina Faso.

It was extremely meaningful to be with the missionaries in their homes, to watch their loving interaction with the African people, and to experience the enormous respect the Africans have for the missionaries.

On the way home we stopped in Ivory Coast for two days and visited with our own D. P. Smith, who works at the publishing house where all the literature for French-speaking West

(Continued on page 11)



Mary Ingram, volunteer from West Point, greets a Burkinabe woman in the village of Sanwabo. The woman is on her way to get water from one of the many wells that Southern Baptist missionaries have provided in this area. Also pictured is missionary Debbie Headlee, a public health nurse assigned to Sanwabo.



Missionary Debbie Headlee has a full load for the trip to church on Sunday morning. The volunteer team along with two Journeymen will ride in the back of this truck for about 30 kilometers to get to the village of Zaka where they will attend morning worship services.

Eloise Cauthen finds changes in China

YANTAI, China (BP) — Some "old China hands" yearn for the China that once was. Not Eloise Cauthen.

The 77-year-old former China missionary, widow of longtime Southern Baptist mission leader Baker James Cauthen, was born and reared in China's Shandong Province as the daughter of missionaries. Last fall she returned to Shandong, for the first time in a generation, to teach English for a year at the invitation of Yantai University.

She expected changes. She found a different world.

"I'm glad the past is past," Cauthen reflected, sitting in her tiny apartment on the new university campus. During her childhood, poverty and a constant struggle for survival were the lot of almost all the Chinese she knew.

"When I was growing up out here, education was just for the privileged few," she said. "One boy out of 10 had a chance to get an education at all, and the girls, except when they were in mission schools, had none. And now every boy and girl can have six years of education at least. In fact, that much is compulsory."

New universities and technical schools, like the one where she has been teaching, are "just bursting" with ideas, she said. Industries are growing.

Agriculture is far more productive. Health care is widely available. "Their living has just improved so much. You see it in their clothing and in their health."

Yantai, formerly called Chefoo, is the northeastern coastal city where legendary Southern Baptist missionary Lottie Moon and other pioneer missionaries arrived by ship to begin work in northern China more than a century ago. Cauthen attended boarding school there as a young girl and came to love Yantai's tranquil beaches and hills. Today Yantai is one of the fastest-growing cities of the densely populated province.

Cauthen has enjoyed teaching English and brushing up on her own admittedly "rusty" Chinese. She has encountered two kinds of students in her classes in Yantai: young first-year university students from Shandong eager for future jobs as translators and interpreters; and older workers from all over China, sent back to school by their work units to learn English in order to catch up on international developments in their fields.

Members of the older group have lived most of their lives in the Chinese Communist era. The younger students have known nothing else. Now both groups are experiencing new opportunities for education and material advancement offered by China's recent modernization.

Cauthen sees in most of the students a sincerely patriotic desire to help China attain its goals, as well as a personal drive to find good jobs and prosper. But in some, she sees another kind of yearning.

One day as she walked from the university post office, one of her female students suddenly appeared at her side. "You're kind and loving," the student said softly. "I want to be like that, too."

"She was one who has come to my



Eloise Cauthen returned to China last fall to teach English. But she also spent a lot of time listening to her students on campus at Yantai University. Her advice to other Southern Baptists who visit China or work there: "Try to learn from the people as well as carry something to them. Try to understand where they live and what their needs are." (BP) PHOTO By Joanna Pinneo

apartment and visited and who has been eager to know something of the gospel," Cauthen explained. While concentrating on her professional commitment as a teacher, she has not tried to hide her Christianity from university officials or students who inquire about her beliefs.

Early on Easter morning, she joined two other Southern Baptist teachers in Yantai on the beach to watch the sun rise. They read the Easter story from the Bible, sang hymns and prayed together. Later, she explained the little worship service to three curious students who asked her how she had celebrated the holiday.

"I told what we had read. I told the resurrection story, and they looked with keen interest but absolute amazement at the story," Cauthen related. "I recognized perhaps more than ever before how utterly out of line it was with the thinking they have been trained and brought up in, how utterly impossible this all seemed to them, that we believe such a story."

"It must be a work of the Holy Spirit that can reveal the truth of the resurrection to students who have been told all their lives, 'We are in the 20th century now and we are scientific, we are modern, we don't need religion any more and there is no God and we don't need fairy tales like that.'"

Much of Shandong Province was closed to most foreigners from the time Japanese forces controlled the region during World War II until just four years ago. It remains less open to change than some other parts of China.

Most students know that Confucius was born in Shandong around 551 B.C. but have no idea that the legendary Shandong Revival swept the region with a wave of Christian conversions in the early 1930s. Nor do they know that missionaries like Lottie Moon and Cauthen's parents spent a lifetime preaching Christ in the province. But Shandong's illustrious Christian heritage still exerts influence across the years.

In the Yantai church Cauthen has attended regularly, 300 to 400 people gather for worship, bringing their own Bibles and hymnals. During celebration of Communion, different lay believers lead in prayer, give testimonies and quote Scripture

before sharing the elements. "It's like a Quaker meeting," she said. "They participate as the Spirit moves them."

In other parts of Shandong, fascinating traces of Southern Baptist mission history remain. One is a church in the town of Penglai (formerly Tengchow), where Lottie Moon worked for much of her missionary career. Beneath a centuries-old Ming Dynasty arch, the cobblestones leading up to the church are worn smooth with age. They are the same stones the pioneer missionary and her contemporaries walked upon.

The church sags in a sad state of disrepair. Windows are boarded, floors collapsed. Behind a locked gate, a small monument to Lottie Moon's work stands in the debris-strewn courtyard.

But just down a side lane from the church, an elderly Christian couple lives in a humble, one-room dwelling. Zhang Baosan, 78, and his wife, Wang Hongmei, worship here with their five grown children, since there is not yet an open church in town. Zhang was baptized in 1925 by Cauthen's father, Wiley Glass, and studied under him at the Baptist seminary in nearby Huangxian.

Despite the long years, Zhang recognized Cauthen when she visited Penglai. "At first glance I knew her!" he exclaimed with glee. Later he took out an old, much-underlined Bible and began to read from Psalms 37 and 39. Soon he looked toward heaven and

recited verses from memory, with tears and choking voice. His wife joined him, and they recited Scripture in unison. The verses meant much to the couple during the Cultural Revolution, when they had to hide their Bible.

In Huangxian, Cauthen's actual hometown, the old Baptist seminary campus is now used for a middle school. She received permission to examine the house on campus where her father and other missionaries were held under house arrest by Japanese forces during the war. Her father left 40 years' worth of daily diaries in the attic, hoping they would someday be recovered. Cauthen was disappointed to find none.

She also had hoped to visit the Yantai cemetery where her mother and two infant brothers were buried. She found it had been turned into a park.

But to her amazement, she discovered her old piano at the recently reopened church in Huangxian, in quite good condition. It was left behind when she departed the area decades ago. "I have no idea where it was kept all these years," she said.

Cauthen was invited to teach a second year in Yantai, but she plans to return home to Richmond, Va., this summer. Her advice to other visitors to China: "Try to learn from the people . . . Try to understand where they live and what their needs are, and learn from the Christians there who have paid such a price to be Christians. And pray."

Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

Defeated by a mosquito

July is not a good month for camping. It's too hot. But W. D. and I bought a used camper in June and wanted to try it out. I applied for vacation time in mid-July to spend a few days on Lake Enid.

Bud sure enough, those days were real Mississippi scorches, and we stayed home — inside — breathing conditioned air. Mama was visiting us and I kept saying, "Let's just try ONE night in the camper at least, even if we just go to the Barnett Reservoir."

We spent most of Wednesday cleaning the camper, packing food, piling up bed linens. W. D. bought an extension cord for the camper refrigerator, and some watermelons and tomatoes at a roadside stand, and found some blocks to set under the wheels to level them.

We arrived at the Cane Creek Outdoor Club in late afternoon. The most even looking spot was in the sunshine, but perhaps the sun would drive some shadows across it soon. We made up the beds, and W. D. finally got the leveling done to his satisfaction. He cut a watermelon, which was pretty fair — only a little green around the edges.

Mama and I started cooking supper. (W. D. didn't help because it was hard for two to get between the stove and the refrigerator, let alone three.) Since we had already made up the bed, we didn't have a table to set anything on, as the table folds down and

becomes part of the bed. We finally got some pork chops and fresh new potatoes cooked, and Mama peeled a tomato and made some tea. No room to eat inside, unless we stood up, so we set the table outside, and carried the food down the camper steps.

By then the sun was about down, and a little breeze had sprung up. Oh, this was going to be great! The food tasted wonderful. We read the paper and leaned back and relaxed.

At dark I got my typewriter out and set it on the outdoor table by an electric pole. (Not very primitive camping.) The mosquitoes covered my hands in swarms. (I'm one of those they especially like.) A bit of Off didn't shoo them off.

Mama and I walked up to the club lodge to brush our teeth and get some ice water from the drinking fountain. The camper wasn't level, after all; its air-conditioner was drooling water down the outside walls. W. D. turned it off and turned on the fan.

We all decided we would go to bed early, since we couldn't sit outside, thanks to the bugs. Mama and I were going to sleep on the three-quarter size bed by the back windows. On a double portion of foam rubber, we got settled comfortably, heads at opposite ends. A mosquito popped me.

W. D. was claustrophobia, and didn't like sleeping on the bunk over the cab, up close

to the ceiling, but he wasn't complaining too much. The fan was so noisy; I begged him to turn it off. And then he said it was too stuffy on the top bunk. I crawled up there to see, and about three mosquitoes bit me. I climbed down, and I could see a whole swarm of them up there above W.D.'s head.

"Please, let's go home!" I begged. So at 10:30 that night we did.

In the Gulfport bulletin this week I read Pastor Dean Register's comments that "we live in a culture that thrives on convenience." How true! And he went on, "What bothers me is that we are so vulnerable to the mentality that says, 'If something is hard let's not try it. Let's do what is easy and requires no sweat.'"

That set me to thinking. Maybe giving up on the camping didn't matter much. But how many important things have I given up on — like witnessing to someone I knew wasn't a Christian, or like taking food to someone I knew was more than likely hungry?

Like the Gulfport pastor said, "Jesus never promised that our air-conditioner wouldn't break down in the church or that our Baptist vehicles wouldn't have flat tires. He never promised that witnessing would be easy or that faithfulness would be comfortable. He did promise his presence and his power in the midst of life's ambiguities."



Catty story

SOUTHERN BAPTIST RADIO-TV COMMISSION / FORT WORTH, TX 76180

I'd like to relate a little story to you as told to me recently by a friend. You see, he has this cat. The cat's name is Nick. He didn't seek out Nick as a pet, but the cat actually adopted my friend. Nick has a pretty sable colored coat, and likes to be rubbed. In fact, if you quit rubbing Nick, he'll gently nip your hand in an effort to get you to continue to scratch and scratch his back. A while back Nick limped home with a cut in his paw. My friend took Nick to the vet's and got the wound sewed up and Nick pumped full of antibiotics.

About the time the paw healed, Nick came down with cystitis, which required another trip to the vet, and some pills that Nick didn't particularly like to take. I think I should add here that Nick is not a full-blooded anything. Nick is just a plain, old, valueless cat. A nice pet. So now, with his two medical problems, Nick had to stay in my friend's apartment. This led to Nick's tail getting into a door causing a break.

Nick got to keep his tail but it required another vet visit and another bill. Nick got shot with painkiller and was taken home. My friend's wife gave him a long lecture on economy and pointed out that it costs as much to take a cat to a vet as it does to take one of their children to the pediatrician. This was appropriate because in about ten days Nick had run up a two hundred dollar vet bill.

This got my friend to thinking. He realized that what he had done for Nick... a plain, old, valueless pet cat... without giving it a second thought, he probably would not have done for a human being in a similar situation. Oh sure, my friend would have kicked in ten or twenty bucks at church if someone needed help and the hat was being passed. However, he said that if a transient or stranger had approached him and needed two hundred dollars worth of medical attention, he probably would have told the person he didn't have the money to spare.

He says that he had committed to caring for Nick when he let the stray in. He recognized that as a responsibility to a pet. But this left my friend with a big question. Does he have more of a commitment to a cat than he has to a fellow human being? He also wonders if his affection for cats has more value than his love for his fellow humans. My friend said he thinks he knows the answer to the question because his recent actions confirm his fears. He doesn't like it. My friend tells me that in the future he will continue to care for his cat, but he will also be more sensitive to the similar needs of people.

QUESTION

I saw a program on TV about donating your eyes or other organs of your body after death. Do you think this is a good idea? Isn't it sort of going against God's will? It seems like science today is giving way beyond what is proper for humans to try to control.

ANSWER

Your point is well-taken. Scientific and medical advances are now making it possible for humans to explore areas and perform techniques which raise some very serious questions of ethics and even legality. Who is going to make these decisions — the scientists? the doctors? government? the church? Every concerned citizen should be thinking carefully about

the long-range effects of some of our new discoveries and procedures.

But in the specific case of organ donation, this seems to be completely within the proper sphere of Christian concern for persons. After all, one of the strongest aspects of Jesus' earthly ministry was healing. If people are supposed just to accept illness as the will of God, then Jesus was going against God's will when he healed the blind and the lame. Perhaps in our day God is still healing the blind and others by giving doctors the skill to perform these transplants. How sad that organs which could be giving new life to a sick person are being buried forever. What greater act of caring and Christian love could there be than to give a part of ourselves to meet such a need for after all, even our bodies are gifts to us from God, and in this way, we extend the gift after we no longer need it.

Revival Results

Shiloh (Claiborne): July 19-24. Eleven rededications and nine professions of faith. "We truly experienced a revival," said Randy Cothren, pastor. Evangelist, Donnie Guy, Biloxi; Marvin Howard, Meadville, music.



1987 Gulfshore summer staff

Pictured are members of the 1987 summer staff of Gulfshore Baptist Assembly. These young people, representing 17 college campuses from across Mississippi, assist in providing the services necessary for the operation of Mississippi Baptists' conference facility. Summer attendance will be approximately 7,000 persons for the 27 conferences sponsored by the various departments of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, according to Frank Simmons, Assembly Manager. Front Row: (left to right) Beverly Beaver, Gulfport; LaGina Slade, Vancleave; Rhonda Oney, Kenai, Alaska; Leanne MacInnis, Pass Christian; Misty Moore, Hattiesburg; Karla Parks, Senatobia; Neece Lummus, Tupelo; Christy Street, Cleveland; Jennifer Hale, Pontotoc; Stacey Henley, Picayune; Kathy Dodson, Long Beach. Second Row: Dorcas Hawkins (houseparent), New Orleans, LA; Karen Vernon, Long Beach;

Sara Simpson, Hattiesburg; Connie Smith, Foxworth; Wendy Willoughby, Picayune; Stacy Jackson, Forest; Lana Speed, Collins; Michele Burchfield, Indianola; Margaret Steele, Greenwood; Suzanne Brand, Hickory; Cindy Green, Tupelo; John Makamson, Sidon; Shannon Bain, Gulfport; Brian Ball, Brandon; Kevin Brown, Aberdeen; Kaye Matthews, Long Beach. Third Row: Allen Hawkins (houseparent), New Orleans, LA; Eddie Betcher, Pass Christian; Mark Girard, Jackson; Tom Slade, Vancleave; Charles Comans, Quitman; Alan Mitchell, Grenada; Pat Ross, Vicksburg; Glenn Robinson, Laurel; Dennis Aldy, Sallis; Mark Leggett, Jackson; Michael Beard, Silas, AL; Richie Edwards, Carrollton; Robbie LaVigne, Carriere; Allen Hendrix, West Monroe, LA; Frank Simmons, Assembly Manager; Toney Mixon, Seminary, MS. Not Pictured: Chris Conn, Gulfport.

Texas House deflects lottery

By Ken Camp

DALLAS (BP) — In the final hours of the second special legislative session, Texas lawmakers approved a \$5.7 billion tax increase and \$38.3 billion budget but no proposal for a state lottery — in spite of a last-ditch effort by lottery backers to redirect attention toward the state-run numbers game.

On Saturday before the midnight Tuesday, July 21, deadline, Rep. Ron Wilson of Houston introduced a plan for a non-binding referendum on the state lottery. According to Wilson's plan, the lottery question would have appeared on the Nov. 8, 1988, general election ballot.

The measure tentatively was approved 85-64 on second reading in the House of Representatives, but it was struck down on a point of order on final passage.

Rep. David Hudson of Tyler, a leader in the fight against a state lot-

tery, raised the point that the revised measure could not be considered because it did not raise any revenue and consequently was not within the governor's agenda for the special session. House Speaker Pro Tem Hugo Berlanga of Corpus Christi, who was chairing the session, upheld the point, preventing further consideration of the measure.

"Words cannot express the deep gratitude we feel for the political savvy and courage of David Hudson, Steven Carriker (representative from Roby) and about 70 other 'Untouchables' who refused to be corrupted by the lottery," said Gary McNeil, Austin-based legislative assistant with the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission.

"We... appreciate the stand of Gov. Bill Clements, who was not enticed by the lottery lobby to include the lottery in his call for the special

session," McNeil said.

In a private July 7 meeting, Clements had assured a group of Texas religious leaders — including former Southern Baptist Convention President James T. Draper Jr. of First Baptist Church of Euless — that he would not lobby for the lottery.

The compromise budget and tax proposal approved by the legislature was worked out by Clements, Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby and House Speaker Gib Lewis July 15. After it was approved by the legislature, Clements signed the tax bill into law July 21 and was expected to approve the budget with a few line-item vetoes.

"The Texas Legislature has passed a responsible tax bill that takes care of the problems of the state today and — hopefully — in the future," said McNeil.

Ken Camp writes for Texas Baptists.

MC to inaugurate paralegal studies

Clinton — Mississippi College will inaugurate a Paralegal Studies Program this coming fall.

"We are extremely excited about initiating this program with the start of the fall semester."

"A recent article in the Mississippi Business Journal noted that of all professional employment opportunities in our state, paralegals would be near the top in growth opportunities," said Edward McMillan, vice president for graduate and special programs and head of the history and political science department.

The College has developed the paralegal program in response to

numerous requests, received by the history and political science department and by the Office of Admissions. The program has been designed to enable students to pursue a carefully planned curriculum to prepare the enrollee for a successful career as a paralegal.

Participants will have two options on enrolling in the program. They can either work on a 30 semester hour certificate or a baccalaureate degree. Courses will be offered during the day, in the evenings, and even on Saturdays to help satisfy the requirements of either the certificate or the baccalaureate major.

Added flexibility of the program will permit the holder of an associate degree or a baccalaureate degree to earn the 30 semester hour certificate without being required to take other non-paralegal specified courses.

The fall schedule will include courses both on the Clinton campus and at the School of Law Building in downtown Jackson and also some experimental Saturday offerings.

Alumni interested in the paralegal program should contact McMillan by calling (601) 925-3225 or writing him at P. O. Box 4185, Clinton, MS 39058 for additional information.

SCRAPBOOK

Have you?

Have you lost yourself in worldly plans,
In timeless worldly fears,
Felt the pressure of the mountains
Lost it all but tears?

Then have you listened closely
To the gusting mountain wind,
Felt a peace within yourself
That only nature lends?

Have you ever just stopped to think
Why the rivers flow, or
Why the mountains rise to heaven,
Why the thunders roll?

Wondered how it fits together
In Creations plan, then
Saw the dew upon a rose
And knew just how, just when.

Stop your vainful travels
Down trails that have no end,
Stop to feel the mountain rain,
Listen to its wind.

—A.L. Harrist
Brandon

Randolph's marble

Our problems to God are no greater
to him than most children's problems
are to us.

Randolph's marble rolled under the
deep freezer. He cried as if his heart
had broken.

No problem: I took a yardstick and
ran it under the freezer and out rolled
the marble.

It was as if God were telling me that
the problems his children face are as
simple to him as this was to me.

—Linda L. Leach
Greenville.

Homecomings

Morgan City Church (Leflore): homecoming; Aug. 16; dinner on the grounds following the morning service; revival services Aug. 16-19; Butch Kelly, pastor of Riverside Church (Leflore) evangelist; James "Bubba" Walters, pastor.

First Church, Yazoo City, "Homecoming '87"; Aug. 16; guest speaker, Robert L. Hamblin, Home Mission Board, SBC, Atlanta; dinner on the ground at noon; open house at the new office/education building throughout the afternoon; evening worship, 7 p.m.; concert of gospel and sacred music by Mrs. Charlotte Carroll ("Charlie") Ray, Christian entertainer from Hattiesburg, and a reception in honor of Mrs. James A. Henley, Jr. on the occasion of her tenth anniversary as the church's music ministry coordinator; James F. Yates, pastor.

Concord (Choctaw): Aug. 9, Sunday School, 10 a.m., morning worship, 11 a.m.; guest speaker, Earl Kelly, executive director, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; lunch will be served 12 noon; 1:30 p.m. special program with Judge J. P. Coleman, Charles Whitten, and special music; Ralph Cain, pastor.

Highland, Crystal Springs: Aug. 9-14; Sunday services begin at 9:45 a.m., with dinner following and a 1 p.m. service; Mon.-Fri. services at 7 p.m.; evangelist, Ricky Kennedy, pastor, Meadow Grove Church, Brandon; Terry Dent, music director at Highland, leading music; Vann Windom, pastor.

Providence, Meadville: Aug. 9; Bible study at 9:45; worship at 11; dinner on the ground; afternoon service at 1:30; Greg Potts, pastor.

White Sand Church, Prentiss, Aug. 9: homecoming; 15th anniversary; Speaker: former member Lawrence Mullins, Monticello; dinner on the ground after 11 a.m. service; Billy Green, pastor.

Sand Hill, Ellisville (Jones): Aug. 9-14: Sunday, homecoming, lunch noon, afternoon service with former pastors, no service Sunday night; revival services 7:30 p.m., nightly, Mon.-Fri.; guest evangelist, Leon Holly, First Church, Vaiden (Carroll); music director, Mark Brogan of Sand Hill; James Shumate, pastor.

Learn from the mistakes of others — you can't live long enough to make them all yourself.

Education commences at the mother's knee, and every word spoken in the hearing of little children tends toward the formation of character. — Ballou

Larry Cox named associate director, National Fellowship of Baptist Men

By Steve Barber

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — Mississippi Baptist Men, an agricultural evangelist in Burkina Faso, West Africa, since 1980, has been named associate director for the National Fellowship of Baptist Men.

Cox will assist in the development of NFBM fellowships, which are the main components of a national effort by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission to organize Southern Baptist men for mission service through their vocational skills and interests.

"NFBM will be a vehicle to educate lay people about world missions needs and challenge them to answer the call by using their special abilities and talents," Cox said.

The organization is an effort of the Brotherhood Commission with cooperation of the Southern Baptist

Home and Foreign Mission boards, Woman's Missionary Union, and Southern Baptist laymen.

The project is supported in part by the Brotherhood Commission and the mission boards. The executive director is a Brotherhood Commission staff member. However, most financial support comes from members of the various NFBM fellowships.

Cox felt that he was being called to service with NFBM after his work while on furlough with the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. It was there, as a missionary-in-residence during 1984-85, that he organized the Mississippi Baptist Agricultural Missions Fellowship. His work caught the attention of Ed Bullock, executive director of NFBM.

Cox's special emphasis with NFBM will be to organize fellowships for agricultural specialists, veterinarians, and educators.

The growth of NFBM fellowships is limited only by the number of

laymen in the Southern Baptist Convention," Cox said, "and I use the word 'laymen' in a generic sense only, because many Baptist women are already involved in these fellowships. Also, many wives are involved in the various fellowship programs with their husbands."

Other vocational fellowships exist for construction, law and government, transportation, communications, business, and entertainment.

The long-term goal of NFBM is to organize a fellowship for each area of specialization in every state convention.

Before his appointment as a missionary to Burkina Faso, Cox was a religious education promoter for the Foreign Mission Board in Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

He also has been a summer missionary and a minister of education and youth to churches in Mississippi and Kentucky. He is a graduate of Mississippi College, Southern Seminary, and Mississippi State University.



Cox

Thursday, August 6, 1987

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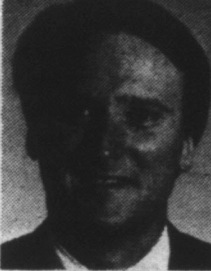
Mississippi Baptist activities

- Aug. 9 Language Missions Day (CoMi Emphasis)
- Aug. 10 WMU Leadership Training; Camp Garaywa; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and 6:30-9 p.m. (WMU)
- Aug. 11 WMU Leadership Training; Camp Garaywa; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and 6:30-9 p.m. (WMU)
Kindergarten/Day Care Clinic; FBC, Greenville; 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (CAPM)
- Aug. 12 WMU Leadership Training; Camp Garaywa; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (WMU)
- Aug. 13 WMU Leadership Training; Camp Garaywa; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (WMU)
- Aug. 14-15 WMU Leadership Training Camp Garaywa; Noon, 14th-Noon, 15th (WMU)

Staff Changes

Rocky Springs Church, Yazoo City, has called Jimmy Kettleman as pastor. Kettleman is a graduate of Mississippi State University and is presently a student working on his master of divinity degree at New Orleans Seminary branch in Jackson.

Bruce Fields has accepted the call as minister of youth at Dawson Memorial Church, Birmingham, Ala., effective Aug. 23.



Fields

A native of Ferriday, La., Fields is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. He served three years at First Church, Canton, as

minister of youth and recreation, and the last five years as minister of youth and activities at First Church, Biloxi. He has served on the Mississippi Baptist Youth Evangelism Conference Committee since 1980.

He is married to the former Nancy Sparkman of DeKalb, and they have two children, Daniel, four, and Lydia, one.

Michigan stops public funded abortion

MASON, Mich. (EP) — A ban on public funding of abortion which the Michigan Legislature passed takes effect immediately, Judge Robert Holmes Bell of the Ingham County Circuit Court has ruled.

Butler to speak at Carey summer commencement

HATTIESBURG, Miss. — William Carey College has announced summer '87 commencement exercises, Aug. 9, at 3 p.m. in Smith Auditorium of the Thomas Fine Arts Building on the Hattiesburg campus.

Students from the Hattiesburg campus, Carey on the Coast in Gulfport, and the Carey School of Nursing in New Orleans will participate in com-

mencement. A total of 53 undergraduates and 38 graduate students are set to receive degrees.

Walter Butler, dean of the school of education at Carey, will be the featured speaker. Gene Winters, dean of the school of music at Carey, will direct the music and perform a vocal solo.

"Make us one, Father God, make us one"

(Continued from page 8)
Africa is printed.

Most of these people are illiterate (95%); infant mortality is about one in three because the mothers have no milk; their daily lives consist of trying to keep their families from starving. They plant their millet and corn (by hand); if the rains come and the grain grows, they eat. If not, they face starvation. Yet their basic need is the same as ours — to know Jesus Christ — and God is moving among them in a mighty way, drawing them to himself.

Since 1845 Southern Baptists have operated under the belief that a cooperative effort is the best way to reach the world for Jesus Christ. The overwhelming impression of six

Mississippi volunteers is that, indeed, the Foreign Mission Board and Cooperative Program are the best, most efficient, effective, best administered organizations in the world to accomplish this purpose. Our missionaries are a dynamic influence for Christ in West Africa, as well as good ambassadors for the United States. We had the privilege of seeing how God is using them to make a difference.

One missionary remarked one day, "These people don't care what you know until they know that you care." Southern Baptists are showing that they care, and the people are wanting to know about the Christ of "God's Book."

'Every nail nailed is nailed with love'

By Angela Smith

Some churches in Prentiss County are benefiting because of the efforts of people working together.

As part of a missions project last summer, about 30 members of the First Baptist Church in Booneville traveled to Wamego, Kansas, for a week to help start construction of a church building there.

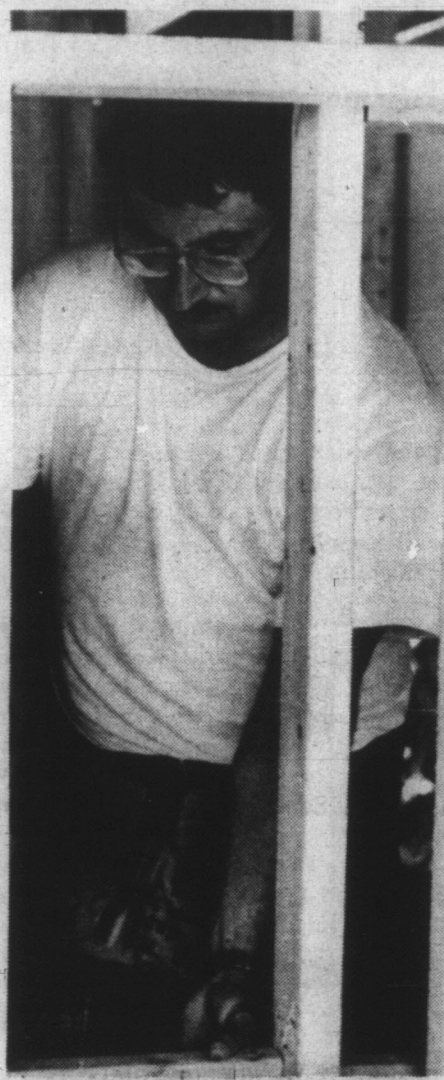
The week of July 12-19, 1987, about 20 members of that same Kansas church arrived in Prentiss County to help with construction of two education buildings — one at the Jumpertown Baptist Mission and one at the Forrest Hills Baptist Mission.

Members from Booneville, First, (Bill Duncan, pastor) are also working at the two local churches as part of their summer missions work. This is the third year the Booneville church has participated in this type of missions program. They chose to stay in Prentiss County this year because they wanted to work once again with the Kansas people, Duncan said.

Dennis Adams, a member of the Wamego church, said many friendships developed between the Prentiss Countians and members of his church last summer.

"The Booneville people kept in contact with us. And, when we found out we could come here, we voted 100 percent to come," Adams said.

Tony Mattia, pastor of the Kansas church, said, in all, six groups con-



Tony Mattia, Kansas pastor, hammers a nail in Prentiss County.

sisting of 132 people came to his church to help with construction work last summer.

"Our people wanted to pay back what they had received," Mattia said.

However, it's not only people from Booneville and Kansas who are working to construct an education building at the Jumpertown Baptist Mission, says Jumpertown member W. C. Inman.

"This is a community involvement for everyone," Inman said. "People who have never gone to church here

are helping," he said, "as well as people from other area churches."

Jumpertown Baptist Mission Pastor Jimmy Wallis said so many people working together has "done a lot for the spiritual life of our church."

While the men were working on the church buildings in Jumpertown and Baldwin, the wives of the Kansans, along with women from the Jumpertown and Booneville churches, conducted a 'Backyard Bible Study' at the Jumpertown Housing Project.

Harris Counce, director of missions

for Prentiss County Association, says, "This work will create bonds of friendship that will endure through the years."

"Every nail nailed is nailed with love," Inman said.

And, after the work is finished at Jumpertown, the Jumpertown members say they plan to go to the Baldwin church and help them complete their new education building.

(Reprinted from The Banner Independent, Booneville, where Angela Smith is staff reporter.)

Revival Dates

Montgomery Church (Lincoln): Aug. 9-14; Sunday services: 10 a.m., Sunday School, 11 a.m., morning worship followed by covered dish luncheon; evening service: 6:30; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; James Sanders, evangelist; Terry Walker, music; Tony Chuter, pastor.

Shady Grove (Smith): Aug. 9-14 — Sunday, 11 and 7:30; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Bryan Smith, Pensacola, Fla., evangelist; Curtis Hatcher, Jackson, music; Bill Ashford, pastor.

Harmontown, Como: Aug. 9-13; 7:30 nightly; services each day with potluck lunch, 12 noon; Jerry Swimmer, preaching-singing Jewish evangelist from the tribe of Levi, evangelist; Trent Grubbs, pastor.

Calvary Church, Gloster: Aug. 9-12; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Bob Rogers, new pastor, evangelist; Mrs. Kathryn Barfield, Yazoo City, music evangelist.

Little Bahala (Lincoln): Aug. 9-14; all day service on Sunday; lunch served at noon; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Bud Swindall, evangelist; Frank Leggett, pastor; special music each service.

Providence, (Bolivar) Aug. 9-14; Sunday, 11 a.m., 7 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m. Richard F. Adkinson, Hillhurst, Nashville, evangelist; Harold Smith, music; Eugene Walden, pastor.

Oak Grove (Scott): Aug. 9-14; Sunday, 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; guest evangelist, Jim Holcomb, pastor, Pulaski Church; music director, Ted and Nelda Jones; Victor R. Vaughn, Sr., pastor.

First, Lauderdale: Aug. 9-14; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekday services, 7:30 p.m.; Bob Simmons, New Orleans, La., former pastor, 15th Avenue Church, Meridian, evangelist; Tom Harrison, minister of music, York, Ala., music; Mike Russell, pastor.

Oak Grove (Simpson): Aug. 9-14; Sunday, morning services only, followed by lunch; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Danny Berry, Walker, La., evangelist; Bob Harris, music; Glenn Kelly, pastor.

First, Stonewall: Aug. 9-14; evangelists, The Fletchers from Columbus, Ga.; services, Aug. 9, 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Aug. 10-14, 10 a.m., 7 p.m.; Albert H. McMullen, pastor.

Lake Harbor, Hwy 43N. Brandon: Aug. 9-13; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., lunch served in fellowship hall; week night services, 7 p.m.; R. C. Branch, Jackson, La., evangelist; Roy Clark, pastor.

Lakeshore, Jackson: Aug. 9-13; 7:30 nightly; evangelist, Keith Fordham; song leader, Ron Jenkins; pastor, Milton Koon.

Courtland (Panola): Aug. 9-13; covered dish at 5 p.m., Sunday with service at 6:45; Mon.-Thurs. at 7:30 p.m.; evangelist, Harvey Sewell pastor of Crowder Church; Billy J. McDaniel, pastor.

Maranatha Church, South of Mize: Aug. 5-9; Steve Hale, evangelist; Wilmer Holifield, music evangelist; Mike Thompson, pastor; services at 7:30 nightly and 11 a.m. Sun.

Concord (Choctaw): Aug. 10-14; 10:30, morning services; 7:30, evening services; William S. Stewart, pastor, First, Eupora, evangelist; Terry Cain, Morgantown, Natchez, music; Ralph Cain, pastor.

Byram Church: Aug. 9-12; week night services at 7:30; evangelist, John Sullivan, Broadmoor Church, Shreveport, La.; music conducted by Welton Madden of Carthage; Ken Harrison, pastor.

Jayess Church (Lawrence): Aug. 9-14; Sunday schedule: Sunday School 9:45, morning worship, 11, lunch, afternoon worship service; weeknight services at 7:30; Richard Green, interim pastor, evangelist.

Valley Hill: Aug. 9-14; services Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.; evangelist, Hal Bates, pastor, Ecru Church; music director, Joseph Sansing; accompanist, Sue Avant; Rickey McKay, pastor.

Yellow Leaf, Oxford: Aug. 9-14; 7:30 nightly; evangelist, James Fancher; music director, Kirk Parker; special children's activity each night at 7 p.m.; Marty Evans Jr., pastor.

Kirkville, Marietta: Aug. 9-14; 7:30 nightly; evangelist, Danny Lanier; Hulon Chaney, pastor.

Mt. Zion (Rankin): Aug. 9-14; Sunday at 11, dinner on the ground, after noon service; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 pm; evangelist, Billy R. Thomas of West Monroe, La.; music leaders, Richard and Brenda Sullivan of First Church, Flowood; Tommy Bufkin, pastor.

Crooked Creek (Lawrence): Aug. 9-14; Sunday at 11 a.m. with lunch served and an afternoon service; Mon.-Fri. at 7 p.m.; evangelist, Mike Herrington, First Church, Freer, Tex.; music director, David Davis.

First, Leland plans youth rally

First, Leland: youth rally and youth-led revival, Aug. 15-19; rally, Aug. 15, 7 p.m., with Terry Thompson, former pitcher with the Chicago Cubs speaking; mini-concert by David Spencer; special music and message by Terry Veazey, evangelist. Revival; Aug. 16 at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., Mon.-Wed. at 7:30 p.m.; Terry Veazey, evangelist; William L. Jaggard, pastor.

Missionary News

John and Jean Jacobs, missionaries to Trinidad, are living in Mississippi during medical leave. Their address is 520 Magazine St., Tupelo 38801. They are not on furlough in Memphis, as was previously relayed to the Baptist Record in missionary update materials. He is a native of Canton, Ohio; and she is the former Jean Holley of Booneville. They have been missionaries since 1969.

Charles and Mary Elizabeth Ray, missionaries to Japan, have arrived in the States for furlough (address:

108 S. 17th Ave., Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401). He is a native of Fort Worth, Texas, and she is the former Mary Elizabeth Gilbert of Perry County, Miss.

James and Olive Reppeto, Baptists representatives to Mexico, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Abasolo #8, San Juan del Rio Queretaro, 76800 Mexico). He is a native of Kansas City, Mo. The former Olive Hundley, she was born in Drew, Miss., and grew up there and in Yazoo City.

Glenn and Patt Bien, missionaries to Bangladesh, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: P. O. Box 1, Jhenidah, Bangladesh). He was born in Memphis, Tenn., and considers Independence, Miss., his hometown. She is the former Patricia McElhaney of Coldwater, Miss.

Mike and Wanda Newton, missionaries to Korea, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 615 Lallah St., Pineville, La. 71360). A native of Louisiana, he was born in Jennings. The former Wanda Dedeaux, she was born in Hattiesburg.

Faye Pearson, missionary to Taiwan, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: 1113 Meadow Dr., Lake Charles, La. 70601). She is a native of Laurel.

Lenora Salley, journeyman to Burkina Faso, has completed her two-year term of service as a teacher for missionary children and returned to the States (address: 5301 33rd Pl., Meridian, Miss. 39305), her hometown.

Jamie Smith, journeyman to South Africa, has completed her two-year term of service as a secretary in Johannesburg and returned to the States (address: 113 Keith Lane, Clinton, Miss. 39056). Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1985, she was graduated from Mississippi College.



Donald and Barbara Ann Phlegar of Yazoo City were recently awarded 20-year Missionary Service Pins in the annual Mission Meeting of the Thailand Baptist Mission Held at the Christian Conference Center in Pattaya, Thailand. They were appointed as general evangelists to Thailand in 1967. They also served as MK (missionary kid) dorm parents for several years. Don has been the director of Baptist Mass Communications since 1977. Jerry Rankin, Area Director of Southeast Asia and Pacific, made the presentation of the service pins. (Photo by Maxine Stewart)

Just for the Record

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 13
Thursday, August 6, 1987



Acteens of First Church, Columbus, had a recognition service using the theme "The Master's Plan." Pictured from left, are Cindy Pelphrey, Acteens director, Susie Dale, Jaclynn Bigelow, Mary Helen Harvey, Rebecca Kelly, and Jean Bigelow, Acteens leader.



Cason Church near Nettleton has presented trophies to the children and youths who participated in Bible Drill competition this year. Children's Bible Drill students for 1987 at Cason Baptist were, in picture at left: Randall Hester, Jamie Jackson, Renae Pounders, Kelli Turner, Kenny Taylor, David Wallace, Anthony Jenkins, Brandy Taylor, D. J. Hester, and Crystal



Cason Church recently presented a certificate of appreciation to April Riley, who participated in the Youth Speakers' Tournament in Jackson in May. Her speech was titled, "God's Way — My Way!"



Dean. Not pictured are Dwayne Huddleston, Chad Huddleston, Brad Tidwell, Paul Barnes. Representing Cason in Youth Bible Drill this year, in picture at right: Celia Jackson, LaChrisa Todd, Bobby Tidwell, Taylor Riley, Ronnie Pounders, Kelly Todd, and not pictured, John Barnes.

Fannin holds Tarpley Day

Sunday, June 7, was designated as Fred Tarpley Day by First Church, Fannin, in recognition of his 50 years as minister of the gospel. Fifty red roses were placed in the sanctuary. In the afternoon a reception was held in the fellowship hall of the church where he and Mrs. Tarpley received members and friends.

Tarpley was born and grew up on a farm near Lebanon, Tenn. As a boy he attended a small rural church. He was graduated from the University of Tennessee with a degree in agriculture, after which he taught high school agriculture for five years. In 1937 he felt the call to enter the ministry, and for the next two years he continued to teach and serve six churches and missions.

In 1939 Tarpley and his wife Ann, with their son, Fred Jr., moved to Louisville, Ky., where he and Ann entered Southern Seminary. During these three years he preached in rural and village churches. Both he and Ann were graduated in 1942.

After serving churches in Kentucky and Tennessee for ten years, the Tarpleys moved to Jackson, Miss., where Tarpley served as director of missions for the Hinds County Association. Later he became the first pastor of Ridgecrest Church in Jackson. During the 13 years in this position, 2,970 people joined the



Mr. and Mrs. Tarpley

church. In 1966 he was called back to be director of missions of the Hinds-Madison Association where he served until retirement at the end of 1980. He became pastor of First Church of Fannin in October, 1983, where he is now serving. Ann Tarpley is teaching an adult Sunday School class at the Church.

The Tarpleys have three sons. Fred Tarpley Jr. has a PhD in economics from Tulane and has been on the faculty of Georgia Tech for 25 years. John Tarpley is a graduate of Vanderbilt in medicine and did his residency in surgery at John Hopkins medical school. John serves as a surgeon for the Foreign Mission Board in Nigeria. Joe Tarpley graduated from Mississippi college and lives in Madison. He is a partner in an insurance agency in Jackson.

The Tarpleys have seven grandchildren.

Alcorn Baptists build church in Idaho

Thirty-one members of churches in Alcorn Association participated in a mission project July 6-11 to build a church in Kingston, Idaho.

The group began at ground level and put up walls and a roof in one week so that a worship service could be held in the church on Saturday evening, July 11. Regular services were begun on Sunday, July 12. Though there is much work yet to be done on the building, it is usable.

In addition to the men's work on the church building, the ladies held a Backyard Bible Club and assisted Kenny Killough in serving breakfast and lunch.

Those participating were: Biggersville First — Jake and Janette Hamlin; Corinth, First — Jerry Boucher, David Green, Richard Key, Taft Little, Larry Reid, Dennis Smith, Nat and Dot Mayhall, Sam, Linda, Naomi, Chad, and Vicki Watson, Lynn, Anne, Michael, and Bill Wood; Oakland — Rickey Essary and Truman Stockdale; Tate Street — Richard Tenhet, Charles Wilbanks, Robert Hand, and Nicky Curtis; Wheeler Grove — Kevin Bragg, Carl Hagen, Kenny Killough, Kenneth Newcomb, Ed Settle, and Dwight Wilson.

Bayou View Church, Gulfport, will be celebrating its 30th anniversary, Aug. 16. The morning message will be brought by Landrum Leavell, president of New Orleans Seminary. There will be dinner on the grounds and a special afternoon service of music.

Those planning to attend, please notify the church by writing to 4709 Chamberlain Avenue, Gulfport, MS 39507, or call (601) 863-2482. Allan Moseley is pastor.

TRUTH, will appear in concert at Crossgates Church, Brandon, Aug. 9 at 7 p.m. (worship) and 9 p.m. (youth rally.) The program by 21 musicians will feature a band as well as vocal selections.

Real Evangelism Rally will be held at South 28th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg, Sat., Aug. 8, at 7 p.m. Bailey Smith, former president, Southern Baptist Convention, will be evangelist, and Tim Lawrence will be music evangelist.

48th anniversary

Southside Church, Jackson: Aug. 9, 48th anniversary celebration; (The church was organized on Aug. 7, 1939.) theme for the day, "The Lord's Church," special guests, former pastors, S. W. Valentine and Fred D. Fowler. Bible study at 9:45 a.m., morning worship at 10:45 a.m. with special recognition of former members; dinner on the grounds; Donald Bozeman, pastor.

A grandmother is a babysitter who watches the kids instead of the television.

Fairview, Columbus breaks ground

Fairview Church, Columbus, recently held groundbreaking ceremonies for a new education building. The congregation sang "He Is Lord" following the first shovel of dirt being turned.

Fairview used the "Together We Build" program for financing the \$1.4 million dollar structure. The building contains some 37,000 square feet which will accommodate preschool, children, and youth as well as an office area. This is the second phase in a relocation project for Fairview. In 1983 they occupied a \$1.4 million worship center. Note burning was held for that structure in April of 1985. The new sanctuary and education building are planned for future growth at Fairview.

A man never gets so rich that he can afford to lose a friend.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON COMMENTARIES

The little book and the two witnesses

By Rex Yancey

Revelation 10:9-10; 11:1-4, 7, 8, 11, 15, 18

Revelation 10:1-11:14 is a kind of interlude between the sounding of the sixth and the seventh trumpets. The sixth trumpet has already sounded, but the seventh does not sound until 11:15, and in between there are terrible things.



Yancey

Our focal passage begins in 10:9-10. John heard a voice that suggested for him to take the roll. It was not handed to him. God's revelation is never forced on any man; he must take it. The sweetness of the roll is a recurring thought in scripture. To the psalmist the "judgments of God are sweeter than honey and the honeycomb" (Ps. 19:10).

It may well be that behind these words lies a pleasant Jewish educational custom. When a Jewish boy was learning the alphabet, it was

BIBLE BOOK

written on a slate with a mixture of flour and honey. He was told what the letters were and how they sounded. The teacher would point to a letter and ask, "What is that and how does it sound?" If the boy could answer correctly, he was allowed to lick off the slate as a reward!

Why sweet and bitter? The content of the book has to do with matters of sorrow and woe. The message was rather general: woes upon men under God's judgment for having rejected him, woes upon Christians in the hands of their enemies, woes upon the church in conflict with the great world power Rome, woes upon Rome and her great destruction.

Why eating of the book? His eating the book symbolized his thoroughly mastering the message. He was to assimilate the message and make it a part of himself. In his mouth this revelation from God would be sweet. This, no doubt, symbolized the sweetness, the joy of

receiving a revelation from God and the delight of being trusted with the responsibility of his message. Every preacher knows this joy. Every preacher knows, too, the bitterness that comes in the delivery of God's message of condemnation to men in sin.

In 11:1-4, the seer is given a measuring rod similar to our bamboo or cane, about nine feet in length. Measuring is common in the vision of the prophets. Measuring symbolized preparation for building; restoration; destruction; and, in this instance, preservation. God's people are going to be protected when the demonic terrors descend upon the earth.

This language is purely symbolical. The temple was destroyed in 70 A.D.; this was 90 A.D. The meaning of the symbolism is that the true spiritual Israel will be protected and preserved by God in the troubles that are ahead.

Scholars disagree as to John's viewpoint on the temple. However, it seems that the temple to which he referred is the Christian church, the people of God. This picture meets us repeatedly in the New Testament (1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians

2:20, 21; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 6:16).

The length of the terror is 42 months. These 42 months symbolize an indefinite period of time when God's people would be oppressed by the world. It symbolized uncertainty, restlessness, and turmoil which had its turning point either to the good or bad.

The two witnesses, Moses and Elijah, represent the church that will have a strong witness during difficult days. The power that supported these two prophets will also support the church.

In verses 11-13, life is restored to the prophets. Even their enemies recognize that it must have been divine power which brought it about. They were victorious; the truth of their message was vindicated as their enemies saw them rescued by God's power.

In verse 15, there is a song of victory and rejoicing. In the conflict between the Christians and the world, there will be dark days. However, the outcome of the struggle is announced before the beginning of the conflict. Christ will be the victor!

Rex Yancey is pastor, First, Quitman.

God's purpose and, therefore, ours

By Julian W. Fagan III

Romans 10:12-17; 11:1, 11-12, 33-36

Much here (Romans 9-11) is difficult to understand, perhaps more than I shall ever grasp: God's sovereignty, election, Israel, the remnant being saved. Opinions abound and are expressed in commentaries, theologies, eschatologies, pulpits, and Bible study classes. It is good to seek the answers, but is unproductive to focus on that about which we are unsure. Peter was right when he said Paul's



Fagan

"... letters contain some things that are hard to understand..." (2 Peter 3:16). Let us therefore concentrate now on what is clear and pray and study for discernment into the rest.

1) God's purpose doesn't change. The ground at the foot of the cross is level. All men, Jews or Gentiles, white or brown, employee or employer stand the same — there is no difference. The cross is there to pay for their sins,

UNIFORM

and God richly blesses all who call on him (vv. 12, 13). Note there is a vast difference in those who "call on the Lord" and those who "say Lord" (Matt. 7:21).

However, how will all these equal sinners know how to appropriate for themselves this available forgiveness? Paul, through a series of rhetorical questions, tells us: (a) there must be a preacher sent from God, (b) who proclaims the message, (c) which must be heard, and (d) believed (vv. 15-16). The feet of such a preacher are beautiful; it is not the preacher who is admired but the message his feet have brought. Faith that produces forgiveness and rightness with God comes only from the message of Christ's cross, blood, and resurrection. God's continuing purpose is that this message be shared with all those equal sinners in order that faith might produce salvation. God wants all people to be saved. His purpose has, is, and will be to get that message to all people.

2) God's people don't change. We do in

maturity and obedience but not in identity. People do not belong to God because of their blood but because of Christ's, not because of their works but because of Christ's. "For not all who descended from Israel are Israel. Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children" (9:6-7). Because Jacob is one's father does not insure one is Israel's son. "In other words, it is not the natural children who are God's children," but it is the children of the promise of faith who are regarded as Abraham's offspring" (9:8).

Faith in Christ alone is the identity of God's people. That faith in God has been the identity of God's children from the beginning. Only faith produces righteousness; it was so for Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, and for all who came after him, whether by his blood or Gentile blood (Hebrews 11).

Has God rejected Israel? By no means! Paul was an Israelite, but Paul did not stumble over Christ. He believed in him as the fulfillment of the law (11:1). Israel, however, has not so believed, but has stumbled. Their stumbling caused God's preachers to proclaim the message of

salvation to the rest of the world. The resulting riches of the Gentiles bring envy to Israel which will ultimately lead to a remnant of Israel turning to Christ (11:1-5). When the remnant of Israel believes, the riches of their becoming God's children will bring even greater riches to the believers' world.

3) God's profoundness does not change. Oh, how rich and deep God is! Can we track him down? Can we search his judgments? Can we read his mind? Can we give him counsel or cause him to be indebted to us? "From him and through him and to him are all things" (11:33-36). God is God, we are not. It is his plan, his purpose, his provision, his power. He has chosen in his sovereign freedom to call us to be his children by faith. He has worked it out as he has seen fit. We can only honor him.

In his plan he has purposed to bring the message of his provision of Christ to all men. The ones who believe him are infused with his power. His purpose does not change. Being his, should not our purpose be the same?

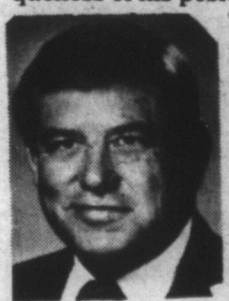
Julian W. Fagan, III is pastor, First, Pontotoc.

For leaders, there was an expected lifestyle

By Al Finch

1 Timothy 3:1-13

Leadership in the church is an enviable position (1 Timothy 3:1). One should realize the uniqueness of his position in Christ and in service.



Finch

The New Testament church was not as organized as churches are in our day, and the role of leadership not so defined. The lack of definitive role did not indicate the lack of moral expectation. For leadership there was an expected lifestyle.

To young Timothy, Paul lists the qualifications of leadership within the church. The use of "bishop" and "deacon" does not necessarily suggest differing qualifications. The word "likewise" (1 Timothy 3:8) indicates there is no difference in the moral demands, although there may be varying degrees in their service. These moral qualities are listed

LIFE AND WORK

without a discernible pattern for each office.

There are at least three problems in interpretation of words:

The bishop (overseer) is "not given to wine" and the deacon is "not given to much wine." Whatever differences there may be in the text, our practice should be determined by Christian concern. No sincere Christian should ignore the damage done to lives of men, women and children by alcohol. There is serious question if a believer should partake of alcohol, even socially.

Again, the bishop and deacon are to be the "husband of one wife." Interpretations differ as to the meaning of the phrase. One interpretation suggests that no single men are candidates either for the ministry or the diaconate. Another interpretation suggests that the issue

is divorce. The divorced man who remarries would, by this interpretation, have two wives, and therefore be disqualified. The third suggestion is that Paul was dealing with a problem more prevalent in his day — polygamy, the practice of having more than one wife at a time. Care should be taken, by any interpretation, that one approach the issue with an open mind and be careful to avoid self-righteousness. This one phrase has eliminated many good men from larger service, while other attitudes and failures have been overlooked.

The third problem in the text is 1 Timothy 3:11. Those designated are referred to as "women," "wives," or "deaconesses" by the translators. There is biblical evidence that women served as deacons in the New Testament (Romans 16:1). A. T. Robertson, the Southern Baptist Greek scholar, considered the reference to "women as deacons" and not women in general or just 'wives of deacons.' "

The text suggests that the leader in the church is to be a man of honor, a man of hones-

ty, and a man of the home. As a man of honor, words describe his character as "blameless," temperate, prudent, respectful, hospitable, not shifty and a doubletalker, but sincere in what he says.

As a man of honesty, the leader is not to be a "novice," but "of good report of them which are without," and he must "first be proven." The leader is not greedy of base gain. In clear conscience, he holds "the mystery of the faith."

In the home the leader is to follow the pattern of God in marriage, as the husband of one wife. His family under his management is an example of his leadership in the church. If he cannot be a Christian leader with those whom he is most intimate, he would fail within the church.

One who would lead within the church "desires a good" ministry, and to serve "well" may claim a high standing. As the Father sent his Son, we are sent to lead our world to Christ. We lead in his character.

Al Finch is pastor, First, Greenwood.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



The Baptist Children's Village

Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director

P. O. Box 11308, Jackson, MS 39213, (601) 922-2242

Accredited by the National Association of Homes for Children
Licensed by the State of Mississippi

Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

HONORS

Mr. & Mrs. J. Thomas Akin
Mr. & Mrs. Roy F. Cotton Jr.
Stella Gurley
Mr. & Mrs. C. B. Wheeler
Mrs. Lala Williamson
Alathan Sunday School
Class, Collins
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Willis
Mrs. Jewell Waits

MEMORIALS

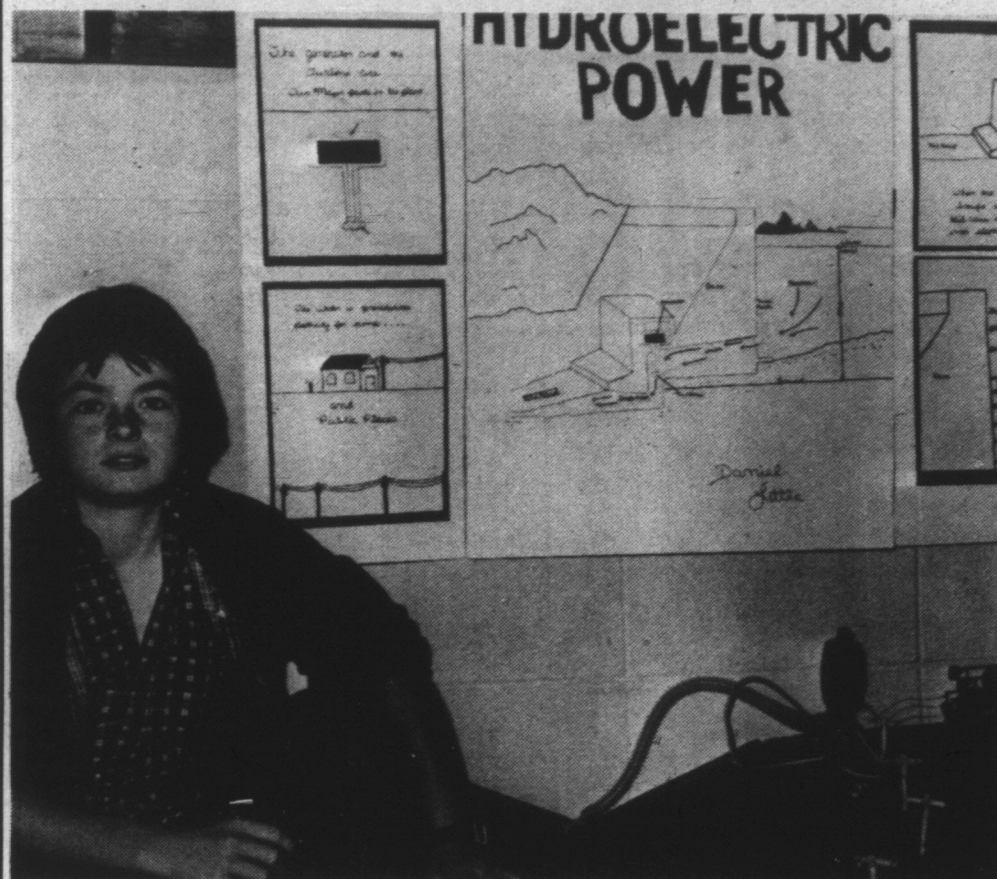
Ben Adams
Glen King of Auto Parts
Mr. H. L. Albin
Fred and Rose Power
Mr. Hughie Lee Albin
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Davis III
Mr. Charles H. Alford
Mary Frances Wyatt
Mrs. Eugenia Farrington
Emery M. Anderson
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Mrs. Appiewhite
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Arian Cletus Avera
Union Homemakers Club,
Meridian
Dr. Reis Bass
Mrs. Lester Bear
Mrs. Lucille Bates
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Harpole
& Ellen
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence
Kenneth & Scott
Blanchard Beard, Sr.
Jack, Lynn & Susan Hardage
Mrs. Tolbert Bennett
Wayne & Glenda Box
Arlene Berch
Mrs. Cecil Berch
E. L. Berryhill
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Walter H. Bolin
Ms. Anita C. Aiken
Mr. Bowen
Mrs. June T. Brooks
Mrs. Emily Bowman
Juanita & Don McClelland
Jeremy Box
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Mrs. Edna Locke Branch
T.E.L. Sunday School,
Raymond
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Kirk
Esther Sunday School Class,
Raymond Baptist Church
Mr. Cecil Brower
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Ann Sutherland
Steve Bruce
Yale Street Baptist Church,
Cleveland
Letha McPhail Byrd
Dave S. & June Bowering
Mrs. Edna Byrd
Mr. Grady McLaurin
Mr. Robert Carney
Floyd & Melba Howard
Mr. Wallace Carter, Jr.
Sunflower Food Store
Mr. Jimmy Thornhill
Mrs. Lala Carter
Mr. & Mrs. M. B. Martin
Will Carter
Mrs. Nell C. Farmer

Mrs. Opal Collins
Leroy & Geraldine Thomas
Pearlene Conley
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Dr. Francis R. Conn
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Janis & Jim Hylton
Mr. C. F. Gullung
Katherine & Bob Holliman
Dr. Marie Dees Mattingly
Mrs. William C. McCain
Mr. & Mrs. William E.
McInnis
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin M. Harris
Howard & Ruth Lee
Mr. & Mrs. M. L. Terrebonne
Mr. & Mrs. Hattan Walsh
Mrs. Mattie B. Crosby
Leroy & Geraldine Thomas
Jimmy Davis
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Ethel Dendy
Shirley & Larry Bonds
Tommy Doty
Homer & Elizabeth Best
Curtis & Edna Miller
Mr. T. J. Dowdle
Mrs. Clayton E. Bain
Ms. Faye Parker
Mrs. Thelma Dudley
Rev. & Mrs. Steve Huber
Mrs. Mary Ann Davidson
Mrs. Frank Edmonds
Paul Case
Mrs. L. V. Evans
Darden & Anne Bourne
D. C. Fitzgerald
Gladys D. Pope
Callie D. Taylor
Mr. Thomas Fulton Flowers, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. David L.
Valentine
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Mr. & Mrs. L. P. Prince
Mrs. Mayo Flynt
Mary L. (Mrs. W. W.)
Whitten
Gary Garrett, II
Mr. & Mrs. W. E. Leonard &
Susan
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin McLendon
Mr. Emmitt Garrett
Harold & June Brooks
Mr. Leo Gaskin
Shirley & Larry Bonds
Van Vleet Baptist Church
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Mr. & Mrs. Bruce & Family
Frankie Lee
Mrs. Rozelle A. Gill
Mrs. Ruth C. Champion
Mrs. Louvenia Goodwin
Mr. Glenn E. Crowe
Mrs. Ross Grady
Mrs. Joan Wilson Horst
Dorothy Graves
U.S.D.A. Inspector Sanderson
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Mr. & Mrs. Jerry W.
Carpenter
Peggy Dempsey Green
Mrs. Ann Johnson
Mrs. Annie Mae Guess
Mrs. M. E. Steele
Mrs. Edward (Willie) Hall
Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Rayburn
Nellie L. Wilkie
Mr. Otis Hardin
Deacons/Bethany Baptist
Church, Slate Springs
Mr. Wilbur A. Harrison
Mildred & Bill Stevenson
Mr. H. H. Havis
Mr. & Mrs. Roy L. McAlum
Ellis & Audrey White
Louis & Vera Versen

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Mrs. Walter E. (Dannie W.)
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Paul & Helen Nielson
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry E. Horner
Jackson Bone and Joint
Clinic
Mr. George W. Allen
Mrs. Sherman P. Noble
Mr. Louis Helveston
Mrs. W. W. Davis & Children
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Dr. & Mrs. William F.
Everett
Chris & Joan Beggerly
Loyce Hemphill
Mr. & Mrs. Bill West
Mr. Jerry Henderson
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Mauldin
Bob & June Stephenson
Anne R. Henley
Mr. LeRoy Monthie
Mrs. Loretta Rutledge
Mr. W. A. (Bud) Henley
Mrs. N. H. Derrick
Mrs. Ralph H. (Clytee) Hester
Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Pryor
Mrs. Mildred Farish
Mr. & Mrs. Benton E. Cain
Round Table III, FBC
Jackson
Mr. & Mrs. Gray Harrison
Mrs. Alabel M. Liles
Paul & Sissy Moak
Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Spain, Jr.
Mrs. Frederick Thompson
Mary Frances Wyatt
Mr. Shelton W. Bolen
Woodrow and Sarah Bailey
Mrs. Marajorie Hoop
Mr. & Mrs. John T. Keeton Jr.
Mrs. Martha Hooten
Mr. & Mrs. Van D. Stone Jr.
Mr. David Houston
Mr. & Mrs. Don Waller
Mrs. Beatrice Hovious
Mr. & Mrs. James Elliott
Mr. Joe Hughey
Mary Frances Wyatt
Edna Hull
Mrs. Dot Bowie Downing
Wessie Bowie Sims
Billie Ireland
Mr. & Mrs. T. L. Moore
Mrs. Mary Owen Jackson
Mrs. Elizabeth Campbell
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Owens
Fred Jamison
Edwin & Eleanor Reynolds
Mr. Jack Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Cooper
Barbara Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Elton E. Rogers
Mrs. Sidney Kettle
Mr. & Mrs. Walter McCool Jr.
Mrs. King
Young Married Couples
Class, FBC, Cleveland
Mrs. Annie Gaddis King
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Dill
Mrs. Alice P. Koonce
Mr. & Mrs. James T. Ballard
Mr. & Mrs. Roy L. McAlum
Mrs. C. D. Spell
Mrs. L. L. Lackey
GFWC-MFWC Women's Club
Kenneth Lick
Buddy & Toby Mitchell
Mrs. Mary I. Lott
T. L., Barbara & Aprille
Curry
Dr. & Mrs. Gary Jackson
Robert Lowe
Fred & Rose Powers
Mrs. Lucille Gross Lutts
Jack, Lynn & Susan Hardage
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy A. Waits
Howard Eugene Mallett
Mr. & Mrs. Hollis Case
Mrs. Molly Maxcy
Wilkes Grissom
Mrs. D. C. Owen

James McAdory
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Miley
Mrs. Jewell Waits
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy A. Waits
Mrs. Gladys McCorkle
Bess & John W. Ray
Mr. & Mrs. Hiram Linch
Mr. Doris McCown
Mr. & Mrs. Norris Wray
Clara McFall
Dave S. & June Bowering
Otis McGee
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Cliburn
Mr. Earl N. McKnight
Mr. Ellis O. Cummins
Mr. Jeff Miller
Mr. & Mrs. E. L. Bennett Jr.
Mrs. C. F. Hollingsworth
Mrs. Effie Mitchell
Ms. Martha J. Till
Honorable Paul M. Moore, Sr.
Mary Lou Starks
Luther B. Oakes, Sr.
Morson & Sterling Oil
Company
Mrs. Vida Parker
Mr. & Mrs. M. B. Martin
Mrs. Ethel Parkinson
John & Billie Whitfield
Mrs. Ethel Parkinson
Mrs. Rose A. Taylor
Neville Patterson
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Mr. & Mrs. Jasper Q. Peoples
Lt. Colonel David E. Sullivan,
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Leaf River Baptist Church
R. V. Petty
Ms. Fay Parker
Mildred C. Phillips
Miss Ruth Sugg
Mrs. Gwendolyn B. Button
Jerrell Lynn & Lauren D.
May
Zoner Pierce
Mr. & Mrs. Gary D. (Don)
Davis
Miss Mattie Pittman
Mrs. Joe D. Stringer
Mrs. Ernest Pittman
Claudia Parsons
Mrs. Adelle Powell
Fred & Rose Powers
Mr. Angelo Provenzano
Mr. & Mrs. R. J. Boyte
Dr. & Mrs. William F.
Everett
Mr. Pulen
Ms. Margaret H. Williams
John Pippin Quinn
Davie & Lillian Quinn
Charles M. Ray
Mrs. M. E. Steele
Mr. Charles Ray
Ms. Dorothy Simmons
Mr. Jodie J. Richards
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Davis III
Mr. & Mrs. Lucian A. Ward
Mrs. Dorothy Robins
Mrs. Lucille Marsalis
Mr. H. K. Rogers
Mr. & Mrs. Dillard Hill
Mrs. Henry B. Sampson
Mr. & Mrs. Roger A.
Harris
Mrs. Hubbard Harris
Mr. & Mrs. E. L.
Bennett Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Donald
Patterson
Mrs. Mabel Sampson
Mrs. Harry E. Speakes
Mr. A. J. Shepard
James & Virginia Cook
Ms. Charline Killebrew
Mr. Wilder Slay
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip
Parker & Family
Rev. & Mrs. John L.
Walker & Family
Mrs. Frances Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Lucian A.
Ward
Mrs. Lunell Smith
Mrs. Robert D. Hart &
Family
Robert Neil Smith
Buddy & Toby Mitchell
Mr. Iddo Sorrels
Dr. & Mrs. D. H.
Thornton
Mr. & Mrs. Gene F.
Walters
Richard Ray (Ricky)
Stevenson
Mr. & Mrs. W. B. Badon
The H. K. Barron
Family
Mrs. Mary Stewart
Rev. & Mrs. William E.
Speck
Jessie Strider
Mr. & Mrs. Walter
McCool Jr.
David Thames
Mrs. Roy D. King

BACK TO SCHOOL INCLUDES VILLAGE CHILDREN



The Baptist Children's Village salutes teachers and students who work cooperatively toward academic excellence in education. An example of achievements meriting recognition is Daniel who was last year's sixth grade Science Project Winner in the Water Valley Elementary School in Yalobusha County.

NOW IT'S TIME TO PURCHASE CLOTHES AND SUPPLIES FOR ALL CHILDREN OUR VILLAGE GOAL FOR BACK TO SCHOOL IS

\$150,000.00

Letters of reminders have been mailed (August 3) to Village friends who are on our mailing list. If for any reason YOU do not receive a reminder consider this YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION to pray for and help us with our Back to School expenditures. Mail your generous gift today because the summer and fall seasons are the toughest times of the year financially.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

India Nunnery Campus
Dickerson Place
Deanash

New Albany Group Home
Farrow Manor Campus
Reedy Acres

Mr. Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director
The Baptist Children's Village
P. O. Box 11308
Jackson, Mississippi, 39213
(601) 922-2242

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Baptist Record

Memorial celebrates its 75th anniversary

MEMPHIS — Employees, retirees, administrators, ministers, babies and visitors celebrated Baptist Memorial Hospital's 75th anniversary Monday, July 20, in a series of activities.

Special ceremonies at the hospital's three Memphis units — featured a cake cutting by Baptist Memorial Hospital President Joseph H. Powell and President Emeritus Frank Groner and the showing of a film covering the institution's 75-year history.

During the festivities, employees and visitors who were born at Baptist Hospital signed a baby book register and received a button which read "I'm A Baptist Baby." More than 7,000 buttons were given away during the

celebration parties. From 1946-1986, 155,309 births were recorded at Baptist Hospital.

More than a dozen babies born on July 20, 1987, at Baptist each received a \$75 U.S. savings bond.

The July 20 parties culminated a slate of events that were held to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the 2,053-bed Baptist Hospital, the largest privately-owned hospital in the nation.

More than 400 hospital trustees, administrators, department directors and guests marked the anniversary at a banquet at The Peabody on July 16. Charles S. Lauer of Chicago, publisher of *Modern Healthcare* magazine, addressed the group.

Representatives from each of the

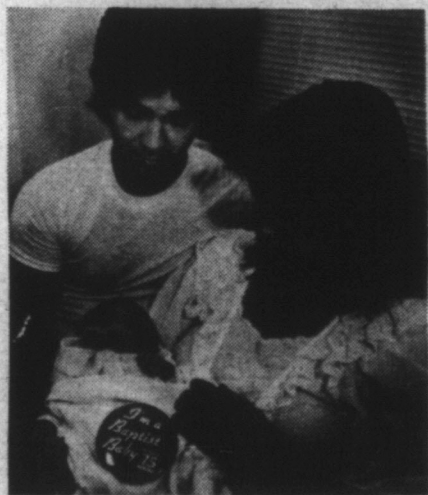
120 churches of the Shelby County Baptist Association were guests of Baptist Memorial Hospital for a luncheon on July 20.

Reunions were also part of the 75-year celebration. About 120 alumni of the Baptist Memorial Hospital Nursing School attended their reunion, and more than 115 former hostesses at BMH reunited for a special celebration. An anniversary dinner for the 1,100 members of the BMH medical staff will be held on Sept. 21.

Baptist Memorial Hospital opened on July 20, 1912 as a 150-bed institution under the auspices of Southern Baptists from Arkansas, Mississippi, and Tennessee.



Mrs. Louella May Vories Hathaway of Memphis was the center of attention at the 75th anniversary celebration of Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, because she was the first baby born at the Southern Baptist institution August 9, 1912. She's greeted by Joseph H. Powell (right), president, and Frank S. Groner, president emeritus. Mrs. Hathaway sports an "I'm a Baptist Baby" pin distributed to those born at the hospital. — Photo by Greg Campbell



Amy Marie Steverson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Steverson of Memphis was the first baby born on the 75th anniversary of Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, and took part in the celebration by wearing an appropriate button. The youngster, along with 20 others born on July 20, also received a \$75 saving bond from the Southern Baptist institution. — Photo by Greg Campbell

Parenting workshop set for Atlanta

NASHVILLE — A regional parent enrichment leadership training workshop, sponsored by the Sunday School Board and eight state Baptist state conventions including Mississippi, is scheduled for Sept. 23-25 in Atlanta, Ga.

Workshop content will feature Parenting by Grace, a Lay Institute for Equipping course, and other family enrichment resources.

Participants will be equipped both to lead the Parenting by Grace course in their local church and to train others to lead the course, she said.

To register for the conference or obtain more information write the Family Ministry Department, Family Enrichment Section, MSN 140, Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN, 37234.

Campers explore ways to spread gospel

By Joe Westbury

ORLANDO, Fla. (BP) — Southern Baptist campers from 14 states explored ways to spread the gospel throughout the nation's campgrounds during a three-day meeting here.

The 272 campers, meeting for their annual Campers on Mission rally, pulled their rigs as far as 1,800 miles for the annual event, held this year at the Central Florida Fairgrounds.

Speaking from the book of Job, camper Bill Coffman and president of the Florida Baptist Convention told the opening night crowd they must wait on God for his direction in their lives rather than rushing ahead of his timetable.

"We so often want to tell God what we want to do," he said. "If we want to come to the place of sharing his love

coast to coast as Campers on Mission, we need to do with our lives what Jesus wants us to do, not what we want to do. Our faith must be strong, regardless of life's trials, so others may know our God by our faithfulness."

Sam Schlegel of St. Augustine, Fla., national missionary for experimental ministries of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, reported the campers now number 11,500 and account for the American Bible Society's largest Scripture outlet. With 300 Scripture selections annually mailed to each member, the 3.5 million pieces are the largest single order handled by the New York-based agency, he added.

During the meeting, campers at-

tended workshops to explore ways of expanding their ministry.

Larry and Martha Jenkins, US-2 missionaries serving in Clearwater, Fla., gave guidelines for developing resort ministries. "The three goals of resort ministries are to evangelize; minister to physical, social, and spiritual needs; and congregationalize — involve people in regular worship at a local church," explained Jenkins, director of resort ministries for Pinellas Baptist Association.

Bob and Elinor Roberts of Miami explained that nearly 90 percent of campground ministry consists of listening to another person's problems.



It's summertime in Summit

Kids at First Church, Summit, built (and consumed?) a 48-foot banana split in the kick-off rally for Vacation Bible School. One hundred fifty children enrolled in the school. Phil Walker is pastor.

Churches adopt expanded annuity plan

The following churches have adopted the Expanded Annuity Plan of 1988 since those reported in the July 28 issue of the *Baptist Record*: Attala, Williamsville; Grenada, FBC Grenada; Gulf Coast, Handsboro; Jasper, Antioch; Jeff Davis, Prentiss; Jones, County Line; Lauderdale: Hickory Grove, Poplar Springs Drive, Salem; Lawrence, Monticello; Lebanon, Green's Creek; Marion, Bunker Hill; Mississippi, Mars Hill; Simpson, New Zion; Union County, Fredonia; and Winston, Macedonia.

Baptist Record

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SO BAPT HIS SOCIETY 00
SUITE 400
901 COMMERCE ST
NASHVILLE TN 37203

August 6, 1987

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205